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ENGLISH COURT HAND

A.D. 1066 TO 1500

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
LONDON EDINBURGH GLASGOW NEW YORK
TORONTO MELBOURNE BOMBAY
HUMPHREY MILFORD M.A.
PUBLISHER TO THE UNIVERSITY

1910

ENGLISH COURT HAND

A.D. 1066 TO 1500

ILLUSTRATED CHIEFLY FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS

BY

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PART I: TEXT

OXFORD

AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

1915

421.7
J66E
Pt. 1

PREFACE

As is explained in the Introduction, this book is intended for a strictly practical purpose—that of supplying the Student with such facsimiles of English mediaeval documents as the improvement in photographic processes has of late rendered possible: its form is further conditioned by the great preponderance in this country of documents of purely administrative origin. We are very well aware that our treatment of the subject is empirical: indeed we hope that we may have provided here the foundation for more detailed study and more definite conclusions in the near future.

The plan of the work was originally laid down by our colleague Mr. C. G. Crump. When he was prevented from following it up, the execution devolved upon us: but we have had the advantage of his help and advice throughout. We have further to express our obligations to the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records for encouragement in the work and facilities in carrying it out; Sir G. F. Warner was so kind as to read through the proofs of our Introduction; and our late colleague Mr. Charles Trice Martin did

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us the same great service only a few days before his lamented death.

Finally, we owe special thanks to our co-workers at the Clarendon Press, who have cheerfully surmounted the very considerable technical difficulties involved in the production. We believe that the blocks illustrating the development of individual letters are on a scale and of an accuracy which have not been attempted before.

CHARLES JOHNSON.
HILARY JENKINSON.

LONDON,
July 1914.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

with notes indicating Blocks printed in the text.

PAGE

INTRODUCTION
- Objects and Scope of this Collection xiii
- Sources of 'Court Hand' xiv
- Currency in Handwriting xv
- Writing Materials xvi
- Continuity of Development in Official Hands xvi
- The beginning of distinct Court Hands xvii

ERRATA

Part I, pp. 79, 83, 104: *for* 1177 *read* 1188 *as the date of Plate VII (c). So also in the underline ad loc. in Part II.*

- twelfth to the fifteenth century xx

METHODS OF ABBREVIATION
- Suspension xxii
- Contraction xxiii
- Superior Letters xxiv
- Special Signs xxiv

SOME COMMONLY OCCURRING ORDINARY ABBREVIATIONS
- General Note xxvii
- Commonly occurring Syllables xxviii
- Commonly occurring Words (mostly contractions) . . . xxx
- Commonly occurring Technicalities (mostly suspensions) . xxxi

LIGATURES, CONJOINED LETTERS, AND TIES xxxvi

PRACTICAL HINTS ON TRANSCRIPTION
- How to copy xxxvii
- Essential preliminary knowledge xxxvii
- Some Common Forms of Error xxxviii

SUMMARY BIBLIOGRAPHY
- General Palaeography (*including* Facsimiles) xl
- Abbreviations xl

56C641

PAGE

Glossaries: Latin xli
Law xli
French xlii
English xlii
(*with a note on their use*).
Formularies xlii
General Works of Reference xlii
Chronology xliii
Topography xliv

CONSPECTUS OF THE CLASSES OF DOCUMENTS OF WHICH FACSIMILES ARE GIVEN:—

Official (Records of Public Administration)
The Chancery xlv
(issue of letters under the Great Seal and accompanying processes).
The Exchequer xlvi
(of Receipt and of Account).
The Court of Common Pleas xlvi
The Court of King's Bench xlvi
Justices on commission xlvii
Parliament xlvii
Council xlvii

Miscellanea and Regular Series xlvii

Un-Official (Records of Private Administration)
with a note of their resemblance to public ones).
Bailiffs' Accounts xlvii
Manorial Records xlvii
Muniments of Title xlvii
Private Correspondence xlviii

The Records of Independent Jurisdictions xlviii

Note concerning different classifications of the examples given . xlviii

HISTORY OF INDIVIDUAL LETTERS.[1]
General Note: the impossibility of exact dating: common and distinct characteristics of small letters and capitals . . . 1
Notes on the letter *a* 2
„ „ superior *a* 3
„ „ letter *A* 4
„ „ „ *b* (*with a note on* b *conjoined*) . . 5
„ „ „ *B* 6
„ „ „ *c* 8

[1] Blocks of single letters will be found in the text at the pages indicated for each letter.

PAGE

Notes on the ligature *ct* 9
" " letter *C* 10
" " " *d* (*with a note on* d *conjoined*) . . 11
" " " *D* 12
" " " *e* 14
" " " *E* 16
" " " *f* 17
" " " *F* 19
" " " *g* 19
" " " *G* 21
" " " *h* 22
" " " *H* 23
" " " *i* 24
" " " *I* 25
" " " *k* 27
" " " *K* 28
" " " *l* 28
" " " *L* 29
" " letters *m* and *n* 30
" " letter *M* 31
" " " *N* 32
" " " *o* 33
" " " *O* 34
" " " *p* (*with an example of* p *conjoined*) . . 35
" " " *P* 37
" " " *q* 38
" " " *Q* 39
" " " *r*: *two forms* (*with a note on superior* r) . 40
" " " *R* 42
" " letters *ſ* and *s* 44
" " letter *S* 46
" " " *t* (*with examples of the* st *ligature*) . . 47
" " " *T* 48
" " letters *u*, *v* and *U*, *V* 49
" " " *w* and *W* 51
" " letter *x* 52
" " " *y* 54
" " letters *z* and *Z* 55

HISTORY OF RUNES USED IN ENGLISH HANDWRITINGS.[1]

Notes on ð (soft *th*) 55
" " þ (hard *th*) 56
" " ƿ (*w*) 56
" " ȝ (*g* or *y*) 56

[1] Blocks will be found in the text at the pages indicated for each letter.

HISTORY OF ORDINARY ABBREVIATION MARKS. PAGE

" " ~ (ordinary sign) (*with a note on the special sign indicating an omission of* m *or* n) . 57

HISTORY OF ABBREVIATIONS BY SPECIAL SIGNS.[1]

Notes on ꝰ (*-re* and *-er*) 59
" " ᵹ (*-us*) 59
" " ꝯ (*con*) 60
" " ; or ȝ (*-ue, -us,* and *-et*) 60
" " & (*et* or *and*) 61
" " (*Tironian et*) 62
" " *etc.* 62
" " ÷ (*est*) 63
" " ℓ (*-es* or *-is*) 63
" " *Hec* 64
" " ᵣ (*superior r*) 64
" " ꝑ (*per*) 64
" " p̄ and p̄ (*prae* or *pre*) 65
" " ꝓ (*pro*) 65
" " ꝗ (*que*) 65
" " qᵘ (*quia*) 66
" " q̄ (*quod*) 66
" " ꝝ (*-rum*) 66
" " ſ (*ser*) 67

SOME COMMONLY USED CONJOINED LETTERS AND ABBREVIATIONS OF SINGLE OR FINAL LETTERS.[2]

General note. (Methods of Suspension : conjoined letters : the latter distinguished from 'ligatures' and 'ties') 67
Notes on d̄ (suspended final *d*) 68
" " D̄ (suspension for *De*) 68
" " Ẽ (suspension for a proper name) with a note on *Et*. 69
" " ff (conjoined) 69
" " g̃ (suspension) 69
" " k̄ (suspension) 69
" " ll and l̄l̄ (conjoined and suspended) . . . 70
" " m̃ and ñ (suspensions for *manerium, noster* etc.) . 70
" " NT (conjoined) 71
" " q̄ (suspension for *que*) 71
" " r̃ (suspension) 71
" " R̄ (suspension for *Rex,* etc.) 71
" " sf, ss, and s̃ (conjoined letters and suspension for *solidus*) 71

[1] Blocks will be found in the text at the pages indicated for each mark or sign.

[2] Blocks will be found in the text at the pages indicated in each case.

PAGE

Notes on p̃ (suspension) 72
" " T̃ (suspension for *Testibus*, etc.) 72
" " x̃ (suspension) 73

NUMERALS.[1] Roman 73
" Arabic 73
" The use of the Abacus: figures expressed by dots 74

PUNCTUATION.[1] The full stop; the reversed and ordinary semicolon; the comma; the use of capitals; the use of stops with 'Sigla'; the 'Gemi-punctus' 76

PARAGRAPH MARKS.[1] ∫∫ 77
" " J 77
" " S 77
" " C 77

SIGNS SHOWING INSERTION OF EXTRA WORDS[1] 78

METHODS OF DELETION. Erasure; cancellation; underlining; expunging; obliteration; vacation 78

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF PLATES 79

LIST OF PLATES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO HANDWRITING . . 81

TRANSCRIPTS OF DOCUMENTS SHOWN IN PLATES, WITH NOTES . 84–250

[1] Blocks will be found in the text at the pages indicated in each case.

INTRODUCTION

Object and Scope. THE object of the editors of this collection is to put before the student a large, and on the whole a fairly representative, series of examples of the kind of writing usually to be found in English documents from the Conquest to A. D. 1500. The survival of debased forms of this type of writing in modern legal engrossing has caused it to be called by the convenient title of 'Court Hand'; and, the principal sources for its study being the records of the superior Courts of Law, this unscientific name will serve well enough to distinguish it from 'Book Hand', the more leisurely type of writing employed in copying MSS. There is no rigid boundary between the types; a formal and stately document may approach the rigidity of a carefully written manuscript, and the original manuscript of a treatise may differ little, if at all, from a letter or memorial of the same date. But although English 'Book Hand' can be sufficiently studied in existing treatises, there is no modern work which has dealt adequately with the other side of the subject from a specially English standpoint.

We have accordingly confined ourselves to the task of printing and elucidating a series of examples of English 'Court Hand'; and the reader must not expect to find a treatise on the history of handwriting in general. Such subjects as the historical development of abbreviations or the evolution of English 'Book Hand' are deliberately neglected, and the subject of 'Court Hand' itself is here treated empirically rather than scientifically; the principal aim being the provision of a good practice-book for the student and a convenient collection of material for the teacher. With this object the plates have been made as large as possible, and the size of the writing is very rarely, and then very slightly, reduced. No effort has been made to select documents of special historical or artistic significance: we have rather attempted to give specimens of the average humdrum material of historical research and to show the beginner how to deal with the ordinary problems which the utilization of such material presents.

The examples are selected almost exclusively from documents preserved at the Public Record Office.[1] No other repository in

[1] See below the CONSPECTUS OF DOCUMENTS, p. xlv.

this country possesses unbroken series of homologous documents stretching from the middle of the twelfth century to the middle of the nineteenth, or from the beginning of the thirteenth century to the present day; and our collection relies largely on the presentation of successive members of these series to exhibit the gradual progress and decay of the art of writing.

Most of these official documents are written in Latin or French and the number of specimens of vernacular documents is small; but it has not been thought necessary to give special prominence to early documents in English, which are not common either in public or private collections. The general experience gathered from the material ordinarily encountered will be found applicable to extraordinary cases. It will be seen from the examples given that there is a sufficient similarity between documents of official and of private origin to justify the application to both of the same *criteria*.

Sources of Court Hand. What we call 'Court Hand' is derived from the same source as the 'Book Hand' with which it is contemporary. Both are based on the 'Caroline Minuscule' of the ninth and tenth centuries, and they do not acquire distinctive characters till about the twelfth century. The divergence, however, is rapid and due to readily intelligible causes. A manuscript, more especially a professional copy made for a library, affords an opportunity for fine as well as legible writing: the documents with which we are concerned are the work of the clerk of a court, of a professional scrivener, or in a few cases of a private person writing for his own purposes. The clerk of a law court or the secretary of an administrative department is but little concerned with calligraphy. His writing should indeed be legible, but speed is of more importance than either beauty or economy of material. The same reasoning applies to a considerable extent to the scrivener and to the private correspondent, but with them speed is not quite so important. In all these cases, however, there is room for the free development of a style of handwriting: the writers are neither hampered by the strict forms of the professional copyist nor forced to adopt the puzzling abbreviations so common in the manuscripts of legal or scientific treatises, where compression is of paramount importance. It is to this untrammelled writing, whether officially or privately employed, that we apply the name of 'Court Hand' throughout the period with which we are concerned.

This class of writing, though not in its nature ornamental, has in its best period a grace and beauty of its own; and may even in

especial cases, such as the granting of a charter, attain, by the use of flourished and decorated letters, to a considerable degree of ornamentation. Its merits, however, consist mainly in its ease and freedom.

Currency. But the conditions which, as we have seen, determined the direction in which 'Court Hand' was to excel, equally determined the course of its rapid degradation. At no time is it as clear or as free from ambiguity as the contemporary 'Book Hand', over which it has only the single advantage of a less complicated system of abbreviation. Confusion of similar letters is an inseparable accident of hurried writing. As the quantity of writing increases with the increase of wealth and of education, haste becomes more necessary, and the writing suffers. 'Court Hand', at its zenith perhaps in the latter half of the thirteenth century, deteriorates more and more rapidly in the course of the next two centuries.

Bad, however, as English handwriting becomes even during the fifteenth century (and it is much worse in the sixteenth) it never approaches the difficulty of some contemporary continental writing. One reason for this is the smallness of the influence of Civil and Canon Law on English practice: the task of an English clerk in court was trifling compared with that which lay before the continental *greffier*; he had consequently much more time to give to its execution, and his writing never approaches the scrawl in which the French process is often drawn up: even Canon and Civil Law processes in England are usually legible; and for various historical reasons they never attained any great importance as compared with Common Law documents. Another reason is that when English current writing began to fall into its worst decadence, while simultaneously the quantity of matter to be taken down or copied was continually increasing, the courts adopted for their enrolments and registers a certain standard of formality below which they would not fall; and made, consciously or unconsciously, arrangements [1] which enabled them to maintain that standard. The result of this is, of course, the emergence, before the end of our period, of those *Court Hands*, distinguishable [2] from secretarial ones, from which retrospectively

[1] We refer to such arrangements as that by which the parties to a suit supplied a considerable amount of the description of the process written up by themselves; or by which (in the Chancery) the time for making up enrolments and the number of clerks at work was adjusted to the quantity of copying to be done.

[2] This distinction will be seen in some of the later examples of our collection.

the name 'Court Hand' has been applied to all manner of earlier official handwritings—and from them to the non-official ones of the same date which so closely resemble them—in the manner described above.

Materials. A few words should be added on the influence of the materials employed on the style of the writing. It is probable that some of the stiffness of the earliest hands is due to their being written with a reed pen, before the general employment of the goose-quill. In the same way, perhaps owing to the wool trade and a corresponding improvement in the breed of sheep, there is a tendency in the fourteenth century to use larger parchments, and thus not only the diction but the writing becomes less compressed than when parchment was relatively more expensive. Paper was not employed in England except by foreigners till some way through the same century; and its comparative cheapness certainly accelerated the decay of handwriting, besides to some extent affecting the forms employed. It is difficult to trace any effect to the changes in the composition of the ink, though it will be seen that this throws some light on the date of the documents written with it.

Continuity of Development in Official Hands. If we turn over the specimens for the purpose of obtaining a general view of the 'Court Hand' of the period with which we are dealing, we shall be struck much more by the continuity of development which they exhibit than by the individual differences which separate one hand from another. It might even seem to be a simple matter to refer any specimen to its approximate date. To a certain extent this is so, but it will be found that the rate of change is not uniform, and that hands of different periods are often sufficiently similar in general appearance to admit of a certain amount of confusion. Indeed it is possible, though unusual, for expert palaeographers to be as much as a hundred years out in an estimate of date in dealing with documents of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Even when, as in the fourteenth century, the development is rapid, a mistake of thirty or forty years is easily made. The reason for this is not difficult to give; fashions in handwriting travelled slowly, and thus country hands were usually more archaic than Court hands.[1] Besides this, individual scribes retained the usages in which they were brought up, and thus two dissimilar styles of writing might and did coexist. There are

[1] The two hands shown in Plates XII A and B (A. D. 1225) are very archaic in appearance, and were found with documents undoubtedly contemporary but sufficiently unlike to be assigned conjecturally to several different dates.

even cases in which a change in the language employed, *e.g.* from French to Latin or Latin to English, is accompanied by a marked change in the character of the handwriting. The modern instance of present-day German writing will at once occur to our minds, but the divergence in this case is much wider than anything to be found within the limits of the present inquiry. The student of early charters will not fail to observe the complete distinction of Latin and Anglo-Saxon characters, but the English documents in the present collection vary comparatively little from the contemporary Latin hand.

The beginning of distinct Court Hands. Another point of interest which results from a general survey of the specimens is the continuity of separate official traditions in the different courts. Not only do the formalists of the Exchequer, the Chancery, and the Bench maintain, in the midst of a general decadence of writing, the standard of their own records in the manner noticed above, but there is also a great difference in style between the writing of Pipe Rolls on the one hand and that of the Chancery enrolments on the other; while the Common Law courts show yet another variety. All these hands develop, it is true, on parallel lines, but they retain a difference in character which persists long after the close of the period with which we are dealing, and which must be taken into consideration in any attempt to follow the history of a single letter. (See the final note on *e* below, p. 15.) Examples of the special and artificial hands thus evolved will be found in such manuals as those of Cocker or Wright: the beginning of their evolution will be found in the later plates of the present work.

Continuity seen in Un-Official Hands. The private documents, however, also exhibit a species of continuity; and we shall find this less surprising if we reflect on the circumstances of their production. Letters were doubtless written for the most part either by the nominal authors or by private secretaries. But the majority of such documents are either deeds or accounts or petitions, and we know that these were all drawn up by a class of scriveners, who needed no other means of livelihood in large towns, but in country places probably combined these functions with the office of parish clerk. The nominal grantors, petitioners, or accountants were in most cases illiterate, and there was thus much less opportunity for a divergence in styles of handwriting than at a later date, when very many people could read and write. In some places there were even guilds of scriveners, and this fact must have gone some way to promote a uniformity of style, both in the writing itself and in the form in which the documents were

couched. We may in fact fairly compare the majority of the 'private' hands with law-stationer's hands at the present day, which show much less variety than the ordinary hands used in letters.[1] The beginning of letter-writing on a large scale, at the end of our period, furnishes at once the reason for, and the worst examples of, decadence; as may be seen by a comparison of Plate XLII, B (private letter) with Plate XLII, A (official), and Plate XXXVI, B (private, but not epistolary).

Foreign Influences. Although the specimens chosen are exclusively English, some traces of foreign influence will be found, particularly in ecclesiastical documents and documents addressed to persons residing abroad. The reason for this must be sought in the constant intercourse with Rome for ecclesiastical purposes, and in the necessity of employing for diplomatic affairs agents who had learned their work in the same school of international politics. It must be remembered that the Papal court was compelled to maintain an international staff, and that many Englishmen, like Adam of Usk, found it necessary to reside there for long periods and thus acquired a knowledge which is reflected both in the diction and in the handwriting of the documents which they drew up.

Languages used in English Records. A consideration which may properly be mentioned here is the influence of the language employed in the English Courts on their writing. Latin is at the beginning of our period the only one used (with the exception of an occasional Saxon charter): and for certain records—strictly legal ones for instance—it continued so throughout the period. English appears generally in documents of a low standard of officiality only, or in quotations;[2] and that not till the end of our period. French, however, became very common for official documents of the less formal kinds (such as warrants[3]) from the fourteenth century onwards. Some indications of a slight but not unimportant kind touching the influence of this variation upon the

[1] It must be remembered that public documents, such as charters, were not invariably written by Chancery clerks. The superior ornamentation exhibited by original grants to monasteries is certainly due to the fact that the monasteries had the grants engrossed at their own expense or by their own scribes and took them to the Chancery to be sealed. An instance of this will be found in Sir H. C. Maxwell-Lyte's *History of Eton College*, p. 54.

[2] Note particularly the trick of the English scribe of latinizing English words, or, alternatively, inserting them as they stand in Latin documents with the word *le* prefixed. This matter is referred to again below, under BIBLIOGRAPHY.

[3] For the comparative uses of the different languages in these Records see E. Déprez, *Études de Diplomatique Anglaise.*

formation of particular letters and signs (especially from the point of view of the comparative frequency of their occurrence) will be found in the notes on ABBREVIATIONS . . . OF SINGLE LETTERS (pp. 67 et seqq.).

The Quantity of Mediaeval Documents in Current Handwriting. It must be borne in mind that the quantity of writing done in England from the thirteenth century onwards, and the wideness of its distribution, are both much greater than is usually supposed. An examination into the processes of administration involving writing which were attached (to take only one instance) to the assessment and collection of the mediaeval subsidy[1] must lead us to the conclusion that hardly a village or township in England can have been without its scribe, and that specimens of the work of any of these may perfectly well be found in the National or other collections: while these latter, large as they are, must be held to contain only the merest fraction of the official or semi-official writings which were made even so early as in the reigns of John or Henry III. It follows from this and the other possible factors of variety already adduced, that exact Palaeographical methods of dating, invented as they were for the purpose of dealing with handwritings earlier in date and produced under less complex circumstances, must be held inapplicable to those included in our period: it follows also, of course, that the present collection cannot attempt to cover, either in description or in example, more than what appear to the Editors to be the most noticeable forms.

Enrolments and Registers. In concluding these introductory remarks we would draw particular attention to the great importance—it has generally been underrated in the past—of that enrolment and registration habit which bulks so large in English administration, whether public, semi-public, or private. The custom of enrolling copies of originals issued and of noting down memoranda or descriptions of proceedings produced in this country a remarkable number of series of such records. Their proportion in number to other Public Records,[2] and the influence which the conditions of their making had upon handwriting as a whole, are matters of such importance as to invalidate largely any conclusions with regard to mediaeval documents based upon the examination of originals only. It will be seen that we have given in the present collection a large number of examples of such non-originals.

[1] The instance cited above on p. xvi *n.*, for the remarkably mixed nature of the handwritings it contains, is taken from this class of Records.

[2] See below the CONSPECTUS OF CLASSES OF DOCUMENTS OF WHICH FACSIMILES ARE GIVEN, p. xlv.

GENERAL SKETCH OF THE EVOLUTION OF COURT HAND

Before making a detailed examination of the forms of the letters, we may venture on a general sketch of the evolution of Court hand, as illustrated by our specimens, and a few notes upon some other matters of importance to the beginner.

Court hand begins to form itself in England in the twelfth century; before that date there is but little difference between the writing of the king's clerks and the ordinary book hand of the period. Domesday Book, the earlier volume of which is probably the work of the king's scribes and written in some haste, does not differ materially from a non-official book hand of the same date, except in the free use of the Tironian sign for *et*. On the Continent a regular diplomatic hand had already arisen, distinguished by the exaggeration of the down-strokes of *b*, *d*, *l*, *f* and *s*, and by the flourishes which are used as marks of abbreviation. In the transitional hands which developed into English Court hand we find the same exaggeration of heads and tails; even the *a*s acquire long flourished heads, while those of *b*, *d*, *l* and capital *I* show a tendency to split. But the most characteristic sign is that the letters are curved forward at the top and backward at the bottom. This of course shows most in such letters as *f* and *s*, and in the tails of the *r*s and *p*s. The writing is more free than in book hand and is written with a slanted pen.

Writing of this type only needs to be written a little quicker and with the letters closer together to become a Court hand of the end of the twelfth century. The principal novelty in detail is the disappearance of the distinction between *æ* and *e*, the latter form being now invariably used.

Very soon, however, the style of the writing changes completely; and quite early in the thirteenth century we find that the curved handwriting just described has given place to a smaller hand, only slightly oblique and with shorter heads and tails. Its most salient feature is that the horizontal strokes are much emphasized and thickened, especially in the tails of *g*s and *s*s, and in marks of abbreviation. Diagonal down-strokes, such as those of *d*s and *v*s, are on the whole thicker than vertical down-strokes, and the heads of *b*s, *l*s, and *h*s show an increasing tendency to split and become floreated. This last tendency brings about an increase in the

thickness of the down-strokes, which gradually become wedge-shaped; while the writing as a whole increases in size towards the end of the thirteenth century. Particularly characteristic of this period is the *S* with a greatly enlarged tail and a very small head, more or less resembling an *M* and very easily mistaken for it: the old story of *Sumpsimus* and *Mumpsimus* is a case in point. This extreme form, though common, is not universal and was only in vogue for quite a short time. The much more frequent use of *k* s and *y* s for *c* s and *i* s is another characteristic of the newer hand.

In the fourteenth century the exaggerated horizontal strokes disappear and the writing at first becomes more vertical, giving it a much neater appearance: the wedge-shaped down-strokes persist, but gradually cease to be floreated or split at the top, a plain hook being substituted. The accent (which preceded the dot) is more regularly placed over the *i* s, single *i* s being now quite usually so marked. As time goes on, the writing becomes both rounder and clumsier, so that a bad hand of this date is sometimes superficially like a bad hand of a hundred years before. After the middle of the century a certain angularity begins to appear in the letters, especially in those with looped heads, and this forms the transition to the writing of the following century. In matters of detail it will be noticed that the down-stroke of the *t* sometimes shows above the cross, while on the other hand the confusion in the use of *c* and *t*, and of *i*, *m*, *n* and *u*, becomes worse than ever.

The fifteenth century is distinguished by the supremacy of the vertical angular or Gothic hand, which reaches a high pitch of neatness in the reign of Henry VI. This writing, at its best, is extremely regular, with upright down-strokes and very fine connecting strokes between them. The ink also changes in colour, the reddish brown of the previous century being replaced by a greenish black. The less careful hands of this period are equally angular but not so vertical, and the down-strokes are often much curved and vary in thickness. Some of the letters also show a great change, the *e* s in particular being written almost upside down. This hand, becoming gradually more and more cursive, would probably have developed into something not unlike the modern German script, but for the adoption of the Italian hand on which modern English writing is based. Examples of this latter may be found occasionally in ecclesiastical documents written in England before A.D. 1500, probably by foreign clerks; but the general adoption of the more legible hand did not come to pass till the next century; and even in the seventeenth century the old English hand was not completely superseded.

METHODS OF ABBREVIATION

The beginner is almost always unduly impressed with the difficulty of reading abbreviated writing. In Court hand the abbreviations are for the most part very simple, except in cases where the subject-matter of the document is very familiar to the scribe and very unfamiliar to the reader, as in the records of some legal proceedings. In the majority of cases a knowledge of the principles of abbreviation, together with some acquaintance with the subject-matter, will prevent any serious mistakes in reading.

The commonest methods of abbreviation are by (1) Suspension, (2) Contraction, (3) Superior letters, (4) Special signs.

(1) *Suspension* consists in the omission of the final letters of a word. This is the oldest form of abbreviation. A special case of suspension and one of the oldest is the reduction of a word to its initial letter, as R. for *Rex*, T. for *teste*. Suspension gives no indication of inflexion and on that account frequently gives rise to ambiguities. It must always be remembered, in using the extended versions of documents in this book, that suspensions may be interpreted in more than one way; and when this is not determined by the construction of the sentence the student must not regard the interpretation selected by the editors as necessarily that intended by the scribe: thus habend. may be for *habendum* or *habenda*, dat. for *datum* or *data*, according either to the grammatical construction appropriate to the case or to the taste of the individual scribe. Suspension is indicated either by a full stop at the end of the word, a usage generally confined in later hands to initials, or by the use of a general sign of abbreviation over or through the last letter. This sign is usually a more or less curved line, or, particularly in later hands, a vertical line through the final stroke of the letter abbreviated when the latter ends in a horizontal line (cf. the examples of special abbreviations of single letters, below, p. 67). Particular letters have their own appropriate flourishes mostly developed out of these two signs: such flourishes are often used strictly to indicate particular endings, but in other hands merely indicate a suspension. For instance, the abbreviation ꝛ, which usually indicates *-rum* in book hands, is employed in such

cases as Eboꝝ, Saꝝ, Baꝝ, merely as a suspension, and inattention to this has led to the barbarisms *Eborum*, *Sarum*, *Barum*, &c. *See* a note on this and similar signs under SPECIAL SIGNS (*b*), below.

In conclusion we may note that in late hands, where English is the language used, suspension marks over a final consonant (such as *d*, *g* or *n*) are very common; and frequently mean little more than that the ending, had the language been Latin, could only have been that of a suspended, or incomplete, word; i.e. that the scribe is acting from force of habit, and that the abbreviation is little more than formal. In these circumstances exact extension is not really possible: as may be seen by a comparison of the extensions attempted here in the cases of Plates XLII, B and XLIII.

(2) *Contraction*. This consists in the omission of one or more of the medial letters of a word, e. g. ħt for *habet*, ħendi for *habendi*. The history and date of the adoption of this form of abbreviation are discussed in Traube's *Nomina Sacra*: the system of contraction was, however, in use in England before the development of Court hand and cannot therefore be used (as with very early MSS.) as conclusive evidence of date. The signs of contraction are normally the same as the common sign of suspension over or through the letters. In certain cases, particularly in contractions of ecclesiastical origin in early documents, the contractions represent non-contemporary spellings, usually of Greek origin: e. g. epc̄ for *episcopus*, where the *c* represents the ancient Greek form of Σ, similarly xp̄c or xp̄s for *Christus*, i. e. XPICTOC or *Χριστος*, iħs for IHΣOYΣ. The oblique cases are abbreviated xp̄i, xp̄o, iħu, &c.

Except in so far as this system admits of historical explanation, contractions must always be regarded as arbitrary. But it will be borne in mind that the oldest contractions, such as those just described, were in all probability adopted not for abbreviation but for religious reasons, to avoid the writing in full of sacred words: consequently, they obtained a fixed form earlier than the contractions adopted for purposes of abbreviation only, and the latter had to be differentiated from them. Thus DS, being the original abbreviation for *Deus*, *dominus* had to be differently contracted and became dn̄s. In the same way, as contraction became more and more employed, later forms had to be differentiated from those already in use; and much that seems to us arbitrary can be accounted for if this sequence is followed.

Traces continue to be found, throughout the period with which this book deals, of an early system of 'syllabic contraction' in

which the first letter of each syllable is given, e.g. PP.=*Papa*, rg'la=*regula*, sc̄do=*secundo*, but the system itself is obsolete: thus tm̄=*tantum* and not *tamen*, which is tn̄.

Contraction never completely superseded suspension in spite of the obvious advantage which it possesses in its power to indicate inflexion; and indeed in later periods, when law-clerks ceased to speak Latin, suspension encroached once more upon its province, owing to the uncertainty of the scribes as to the proper terminations to be employed.

(3) *Superior letters.* Both suspensions and contractions are often, especially from the twelfth century onwards, helped out by the insertion of one or more letters above the line. Sometimes only one letter is omitted and this is placed above the line as though it had been left out accidentally, but more usually a letter above the line denotes the omission of two or more letters on the line. Thus *u* is omitted after *q*, e.g. q^{a}m *or* q^{ā}=*quam*, q^{i}ete=*quiete*; or before *r*, e.g. dicit^{r}=*dicitur*: again *r* is frequently omitted before a vowel, e.g. t^{a}ctus=*tractus*, disc^{e}tus=*discretus*, p^{i}mus=*primus*. Similarly we have h^{c} for *hoc*, n^{c} for *nec*, p^{t} for *potest*, u^{o} for *vero*, and even g^{a} for *erga*, g^{o} for *ergo* and g^{r} for *igitur*, where the principle is strained almost to its limit. Superior letters may develop into forms quite different from those of the letter proper (*see under* a), and even turn into special signs like that for *ur* of which examples are given later.

(4) *Special Signs.* These may be divided into two classes, (*a*) those which represent definite letters, words, or syllables, and (*b*) those which are modifications of a particular letter determining the nature of the syllable for which it stands.

(*a*) The first class is partly derived from the Tironian signs, a system of shorthand invented by Cicero's freedman Tiro, and partly of later origin—e.g. from the '*Notae Iuris*'.

–. The simplest of these, a straight line over a letter, is properly employed to represent an omitted *m* or *n*, thus om̄es=*omnes*, cū=*cum*; while it occasionally stands for *-er*: both it, however, and the more or less horizontal curves and flourishes into which it develops serve more generally, as has been seen, for a mere indication of suspension or contraction.

ꝰ. A broken oblique stroke above the line, originally a superior *r*, and often taking the form of an arabic 7 or an upward curve from the end of a letter, stands properly for *-er* and hence for *-re*, *-ir*, and *-or*. Thus c^{ꝰ}a=*cera*, v^{ꝰ}=*vir*, ux^{ꝰ}=*uxor*. This, like the previous sign, is often used as a mere sign of contraction or

suspension: but no other is ever used for *-er* except in the case of tall letters, where the horizontal line or flourish replaces it, being written through the head of the letter, e.g. liƀe=*libere*.

^{9}. A round curl over the line stands for *-us*: thus ei^{9}=*eius*; in some cases it represents *-os* as p^{9}t=*post*. This sign is rarely if ever used as a mere suspension.

9. The same sign *on the line* stands for *con-*, e.g. 9ventio=*conventio*.

^{r}. This sign, originally an *r* above the line, is used for *-ur* and sometimes for *-tur* final. Thus dicit^{r}, or dic^{r}=*dicitur*, c^{r}rit=*currit*. There is some possibility of confusion between this sign and that for *-er* previously described, but the form of this is usually more curved.

; or ȝ. A semicolon or ȝ stands for *-et*, and for *-ue* or even *-us*. Thus liqȝ=*liquet*, atqȝ=*atque*, omnibȝ=*omnibus*. It may also signify the omission of other letters in combination with *-et*: thus pȝ=*patet*, qȝ=*quietus* (occasionally), sȝ=*scilicet* (as well as *set*), vȝ=videlicet.

℈ or & stands for *et* and is not found in the middle of words after A. D. 1200.

7, ⁊, the Tironian sign for *et*, supersedes the other form except as *Et* initial.

÷ = *est* is not usual after the twelfth century in Court hand.

ꝛ, a flourish after the letter, turning downwards, usually stands for *-es* or *-is*: thus Radingꝛ for *Radinges*, Comitꝛ for *comitis*, regꝛ for *regis*. The sign, however, closely resembles a mere suspension noticed below as occurring after various letters in a final position. Its definite use for *-es* or *-is* becomes more frequent in later, and especially in English, documents.

(*b*) Particular letters undergo special alterations for special purposes: thus—

ħ, with a diagonal stroke through the stem, usually stands for *hec*.

ħ for *hoc*.

h^{9} for *hujus*.

p̄ stands for *pre*. (In later hands p^{η} takes its place).

ꝑ for *per*.

ꝓ for *pro*.

$p^{ꝰ}$ for *post* (see above).

q̄ for *que*.

q̄̄ for *quem*, q^{a} for *quam*.

ꝙ for *quod*.

q^{i} for *quid*.

ꝗ for *que*, as above.

ꝙ for *quia*.

ꝛ (a round *r* with a vertical stroke through its horizontal final limb) = *-rum*, but this is also used as a mere suspension and must not be construed rigorously. Thus Saꝛ=*Sarisberiensis* or *Sarisberia*.

ſ = *ser-*, but this also is often a mere suspension or even a contraction: it is also used for *sieur* or even *seigneur*. It is sometimes written carelessly, ſ.

vꝫ= (in Welsh names) *verch*.

Other common abbreviations of single letters are dealt with below, p. xxxi.

It must be borne in mind that any of these methods of abbreviation may be combined, and some of the most puzzling results are arrived at by a combination of contraction, &c., with abbreviation by special signs. Thus—

pꝫ=*patet*, ꝑꝫ or ppꝫ=*patet per*.
qꝗ=*quietus*, ēqꝗ=*est quietus*.
9=*con-*, 9^{a}=*contra*.
$h^{ꝰ}$=*huius*, $h^{ꝰ}$i=*huiusmodi*.

SOME COMMONLY OCCURRING ORDINARY ABBREVIATIONS

The student who has made himself conversant with the rules of abbreviation given above and who follows closely the sense and the administrative significance of his documents should be able to solve most questions of abbreviation without having recourse to a dictionary or list of abbreviated words. Either (1) his scribe is using one of the special signs already noted; or (2) his scribe is suspending or contracting—i.e. abbreviating according to fancy, arbitrarily; in which case the dictionary must often fail to show the form required and, still more often, confuse the reader with a multitude of forms which he does not want and concerning the period and prevalence of which he has no information.

There is, however, a residuum of certain syllables and a considerable number of words which for various reasons occur so frequently in the Latin language and in English Records that they tend almost invariably to be abbreviated in the same way. For convenience we have listed here such of these as appear to us most important or puzzling. For obvious reasons that description must apply rather to contractions than suspensions; the latter variety of abbreviation, too, is much the more arbitrary, tends far less to fixed forms. We have, however, given a fair number of suspensions applied to legal or other technicalities of common occurrence. This last phrase must be held to exclude such as, belonging to a single comparatively small class of documents (the technicalities of trade, for instance, or farming), are of too minutely detailed a description to be dealt with in the limits of the present note.

We have not attempted to deal with French abbreviations because, owing to the date at which that language became common in English Records, they are nearly all suspensions, and suspensions of an individual, rather than a technical (and so common) kind. If they are contractions, or if they are technical, they are as a rule only the French form of a more familiar Latin word and the abbreviation used is the same or similar. We would add an emphatic caution that the abbreviations are only common: in no case can the scribe be held bound either to abbreviate at all or to abbreviate in the manner here shown.

For the similar effect caused by a like frequency of occurrence in the forms of abbreviation of certain single letters, see below the section entitled COMMONLY USED CONJOINED LETTERS AND ABBREVIATION OF SINGLE OR FINAL LETTERS. See also above, p. xxiv, *Special Signs*.

I

Abbreviations of commonly occurring syllables.

Taking then first certain syllables or arrangements of letters, occurring as a rule medially, which are generally contracted in the same way, we notice six fairly well-defined groups. It is always possible, of course, for two of these to occur in a single word: thus *communicacionem* will be dealt with under both (i) and (v) below.

(i) **ci** (where the *i* has a *y* sound): words in which this occurs are, of course, very common. Three points are particularly to be noticed. First the *i* always disappears in abbreviations: thus we have summoničonem (*-is, -i, -e*, &c.) for *summonicionem*. Secondly the *n* usually disappears also, giving us, for instance, communicacõem (*-is, -ibus*, &c.) for *communicacionem*. Thirdly some letters before *io* are, not infrequently, omitted as well, and we have rõne, oblõne, and dilõne for *racione, oblacione*, and *dilacione*.

(ii) **ct**. This involves the omission of the *t* with the preceding, and very often the following, vowel. The words most affected are *dictus* and *factus*, but under this heading must come all the words which are derivatives or compounds of them. Thus we have dc̃m for *dictum*, fc̃is for *factis*, fc̃ura, effc̃us, defc̃u, malefc̃ores, p̄dc̃a (for *predicta*), antedc̃o, &c.; also dilc̃us, dilc̃m, dilc̃oẽm (for *dilectus*, &c.), rc̃us, rc̃orem (for *rectus, rectorem*), and so forth: the use, by an extension of the principle, of sc̃us, sc̃o, &c., for *sanctus*, &c., is noteworthy.

Notice, as an instance of the way in which necessary distinctions are sometimes customarily fixed, that owing, perhaps, to the fear of confusion *o* and *u* are seldom omitted before *ct*: thus dc̃us seldom, if ever, stands for *doctus* or *ductus*; the most commonly occurring of the three words monopolizes the conventional abbreviation.

(iii) **l**. There are three notable groups of abbreviations connected with the occurrence of this letter medially. First there is the case where it is preceded by *u*, generally by *cu* but also *tu*, &c. In this case the abbreviation takes the form of the omission of *u*. Thus we have almost invariably periclum, adminicl̃m, partic̃le, sec̃laris; also tit̃lus, vit̃lus, pop̃lus, sing̃lus, sing̃laris, and so forth.

Secondly we find a more general form of abbreviation, the omission frequently to be noticed of any vowel in front of the *l*:

common instances of this are t̃lis for *talis*, to t̃le for *totale*, amab̃lis (cp. other words ending in *-bilis*), que ̃la for *querela*, cap̃lla, cap̃llanus, and so forth.

Thirdly we have medial *l* affected to the omission of subsequent letters. This occurs particularly in the case of adverbs ending in *-liter* or even *-liciter*: we have for instance tal ̃r for *taliter*, al ̃r for *aliter*, simpl ̃r for *simpliciter*, simil ̃r and sil ̃r (*see also* group (v) below) for *similiter*. We have also -l ̃t as an ending for all cases of *quilibet*.

(iv) **m** and **n**. The large number of constant abbreviations connected with either or both of these letters may be divided into two classes. First we have the case where a vowel, an *n*, and a dental occur in that order; the vowel always and the *n* generally disappearing in abbreviation. The words in which this occurs are for the most part either words ending in *-mentum* or gerunds and gerundives. Thus we have amerciam̃tum (*-i*, *-o*, &c.) for *amerciamentum*, &c.; as also sacram̃tum, parliam̃tum, and so forth: and again em̃do (for *emendo*), seq̃ndo (for *sequendo*), em̃dn̄do (for *emendando* —a double example), sc̃ds (for *secundus*). Also the vowel (especially when it is *u*) is frequently omitted in the termination of the third person plural; for example *fuerunt* is written fuer̃nt.

The second set of abbreviations associated with *m* and *n* embraces all those words where syllables are made up of *m*, *n*, and vowels only. In these cases the *m* and *n*, not the vowels, disappear. Obvious instances are the contractions for all cases of *anima*, *animus*, and *animal* (aĩab3, aĩo¾, aĩalia, &c.); *comes* and *communis* with their derivatives and root connexions (cõitem for *comitem*, coĩtissa, coĩtiva, coĩtatus, cõe for *commune*, coĩter, coĩtas, coĩcare); all cases of *homo* and its derivatives (hoĩb3, hoĩagium); *nomen* and its derivatives (noĩa, noĩativa, [pre]noĩatus, &c.); *omnis* and its derivatives (oĩum, or by a further contraction oĩm, oĩo for *omnino*, oiõda for *omnimoda*); and all cases where *-onem*, *-onis*, &c., appear in the inflexion of third declension words (these are the same words, as a rule, as those mentioned above in section (i)).

This fondness for omitting *m* and *n* is probably responsible for the erroneous belief that the mediaeval Court Hand scribe used regularly a special mark of abbreviation for the purpose.

(v) **r**. In a number of words where *r* occurs medially a preceding syllable is habitually left out. The best instances of this are furnished by the cases of *noster* and *vester* (nr̃m for *nostrum*, vr̃a for *vestra*, and so forth); mr̃em, pr̃em, pr̃ia, fr̃em, &c., for *matrem*, *patrem*, *patria*, *fratrem*, &c.; l ̃ra for *litera*; and mag̃rum, &c., for *magistrum*; with one or two other examples not quite so definite.

We may now consider the common abbreviations of certain *words* which occur often. For convenience we have divided these into words whose frequency is due to reasons of language—they express ideas which are bound to require expression continually—and other more popular words whose popularity is based on administrative or other conditions. Incidentally it may be noticed that the first of these classes consists almost wholly of contractions and the second of suspensions. We list the words in alphabetical order in each case.

II

Abbreviations of commonly occurring words (*mostly contractions*).

aĩa, aĩal, &c: *see* Section I above.
aĩr = *aliter*: *see* Section I.
aĩs = *alias.*
añ = *ante.*
apͤ, apͤd = *apud.*
aũ = *autem.*
bñ = *bene.*
com-, con-, Various words beginning with: *see* Section I.
dc̃us
dilc̃us } *see* Section I.
dilõne
dĩa = *divina.*
dñs, dña, &c. = *dominus*, &c.
dš = *Deus.*
ẽ = *est.*
Edus = *Edmundus.*
Edr̃us = *Edwardus*
ẽẽ, ẽẽt = *esse, esset.*
ẽm = *enim.*
fc̃us: *see* Section I.
fl̃a = *falsa.*
fr̃, fr̃em, fr̃is: *see* Section I.
hẽo, hẽns, hẽre, hĩtus, &c. = *habeo* (and parts).
(Similarly inhĩtans = *inhabitans*, and so forth.)
hoĩbꝫ, &c. (*homo*, cases of): *see* Section I.
ibm = *ibidem.*
id = *idem.*
= *idus*, &c.
idm = *idem*: the cases similarly drop the *e.*
igr̃ = *igitur.*
iñ = *inde.*

iõ = *ideo*.
iꝑe, iꝑius, &c. = *ipse* (and cases).
ỽ = *vel*.
lr̃a (*litera*); *see* Section I.
mr̃, mr̃em, &c. = *mater* &c.: *see* Section I.
= *magister* (and cases where terminations agree).
= *martyr* (and cases).
n̄ = *non*.
= cases of *nos* and *noster* (this does not generally occur in early hands).
= *enim*.
noꝫ, noꝫcū = *nobis*, *nobiscum*.
noĩa, &c. (*nomen* with its cases and derivatives): *see* Section I.
nr̃, &c. (*noster* and cases): *see* Section I.
oĩs, oĩum, &c. (*omnis*, with its cases and derivatives): *see* Section I.
poĩtus, &c. = *positus* (and cases). The same treatment is extended to compounds and derivatives of *pono*; e.g. prepoĩtus = *prepositus*, poĩcio = *posicio*. More rarely the *n* is omitted in those parts of the verb where it should appear.
pꝑlm, pꝑlaris, &c. = *populum*, &c.
pr̃, pr̃em, pr̃iam, &c. *see* Section I.
qñ = *quando*.
Raꝺ = *Radulfus*.
Ric̃, Ric̃m, &c. = *Ricardus*, *Ricardum*, &c.
salt̃m = *salutem*.
sc̃ds = *secundus*: *see also* Section I.
sc̃us, sc̃o, &c.: *see* Section I.
seq̃ns, seq̃nti, &c. = *sequens* (and cases): *see also* Section I.
sic̃ = *sicut*.
sil̃is, sil̃r: *see* Section I.
sñĩa = *sententia*.
t̃lis, &c.: *see* Section I.
t̃m = *tantum* (and sometimes *tam*).
t̃n = *tamen*.
ũl, or ṽl = *vel*.
uñ = *unde*.
ux̃, ux̃is, &c. = *uxor* (with its cases).

III

Commonly occurring technicalities (*mostly suspensions*).

Note. The suspensions which we have here extended in the nominative singular may of course stand also for other cases.

abꝺ, abꝺem, &c. = *abbas*.
ac̃ = *acolyta*.

aĉ, acr̃ = *acra.*
aff̃ = *afferator.*
= *affidator, affidavit,* &c.
all̃, alloĉ = *allocatur, allocatum,* &c.
apl̃us, apl̃ice = *apostolus,* &c.
app̃ = *apparet*
= *apponitur*
= *approbatur*
} (and other parts of same verbs).
ar̃, arm̃ = *armiger.*
arr̃ = *arreragia.*
ass̃ (mor̃ anĉ; nov. diss.; ult. p̄s.) = *Assisa* (*mortis antecessoris; nove disseisine; ultime presentacionis*).
= *assisus, -a, -um* (and cases).
ass̃ veñ reĉ = *assisa venit recognoscere.*
att̃ = *attornatus* (and other parts of verb).
bal̃l̃, ball̃ia, bal̃l̃us = *balliva, ballivus,* &c.
b̃e, b̃i, b̃us = *beate, beati, beatus.*
bl̃ = *blancus.*
= *bladum.*
br̃e = *breve.*
c. = *compotus.*
C. or C^{m} = *Capitulum.*
= *Centum.*
cã = *causa.*
= *capias.*
ca. sa. = *capias ad satisfaciendum.*
cap̃lla, cap̃llanus = *capella,* &c.
cat̃ = *catalla.*
chiṽ, chr̃ = *chivaler*; often used as a title even in Latin documents.
cler̃ = *clericus, clerus,* &c.
com̃ = *comes.*
comp̃ = *compotus.*
cons̃ = *consuetudo* (also *consimilis*).
cont̃ = *continetur* (and other parts of that verb).
cor̃ = *coronator.*
cur̃ = *curia.*
cust̃ = *custos, custodia,* &c.
d̃ = *denarius.*
D̃ = *De.*
def̃ = *defectus.*
= *defendit* (and other parts of verb).
= *deforcians.*
= *defunctus.*

deforc̃ = *deforcians.*
deñ = *denarius.*
dĩ = *dilectus.*
= *dimidius.*
di. et fi. = *dilectus et fidelis.*
dilõne = *dilacione*: *see* Section I.
dissŝ = *disseisivit* (and other parts of the verb).
distr̃ = *distringat* (and other parts of the verb).
d̃nica, d̃nium, d̃ns, &c. = *dominica, dominium, dominus,* &c.
ẽ = *essonia* (ũ *or* ṽ ẽ = *vetus essonia*; ñ ẽ = *nova essonia*).
ep̃c, ep̃s, ep̃alis, &c. = *episcopus,* &c.
esc̃ = *escaetor.*
essŝ = *essonia, essoniator,* &c.
ex̃, exr̃ = *examinatur.*
= *extrahitur, extractum,* &c.
expñs = *expense.*
f̃ = *feodum.*
fĩ = *fidelis,* &c. (as above).
fi. fa. = *fieri facias.*
fm̃ = *festum.*
fr̃ = *frumentum* (also *frater*: *see* Section II).
gr̃a, gr̃am = *gracia, graciam.*
Id̃ = *Idus*: *see* Section II.
inq̃ = *inquisitio.*
iud̃ = *iudeus, iudaismus.*
= *iudicium.*
iur̃ = *iurati, iuratores,* &c.
kal̃ = *kalendae, kalendarium.*
km̃us, &c. = *karissimus.*
lĩ = *libra.*
= *licencia.*
li. conc. = *licencia concordandi.*
li. lo. = *licencia loquendi.*
lĩ, lib̃ = *liberare* (and other parts of the verb).
lib̃ = *libere.*
lĩttime = *legittime.*
lo., loq̃ = *loquitur* (and other parts of that verb).
= *loquela.*
m̃ = *manerium.*
= *manucapere* (and parts of that verb), *manucaptores,* &c.
= *manus.*
= *membrana.*
m^{d} = *memorandum.*

manꝺ = *mandat, mandatum.*
maꝛ = *marescallus.*
meſ = *mesnagium.*
mĩa = *misericordia.*
miꝉ = *miles.*
n. e. (i.) = *non est* (*inventus*).
nicℏ = *nichil.*
nũo = *numero.*
oƀ = *obolus.*
oblõne = *oblatione*: *see* Section I.
op. se = *optulit se.*
p. e. = *preceptum est.*
ꝑtiñ = *pertinet, pertinenciis,* &c.
peꝛ (ṽ) = *petens, petit,* &c. (*versus*).
pꝉ (de proſ) = *plegius, plegium,* &c. (*de prosequendo, prosecutione*).
plĩtum, plĩta = *placitum, placita.*
pña = *pena.*
po. lo. = *ponit* (*positus,* &c.) *loco.*
pp̃a = *papa.*
qª, quã = *quadrans.*
queꝛ = *querens,* &c., *queritur* (and other parts of the verb).
R̃ *or* ꝛ = *Respondet.*
= *Rex.*
= *Rotulus.*
ꝛ c̃ = *reddit compotum.*
ꝛ ꝛ = (*anno*) *regni regis.*
re. fa. lo. = *recordari facias loquelam.*
rec̃ = *recepta.*
= *recordum.*
req̃ = *requirit, requisitus,* &c.
resp̃ = *respectus.*
= *respondet.*
rõne = *ratione*: *see* Section I.
ſ = *solidus.*
= *summa.*
Sabƀi = *Sabbati*: note that the other names for days of the week are also as a rule regular in the forms of their abbreviation.
Sª = *Summa.*
sci. fa. = *scire facias.*
sc̃la, sc̃laris = *secula, secularis.*
scrĩ = *scribendo* (and other parts of that verb).
señ = *senescallus.*

s̃ma = *summa.*
so͡l = *solidus.*
= *solvitur, solutus,* &c.
spãlis, spĩalis = *specialis.*
sp̃s, sp̃ualis, sp̃ualitas = *spiritus, spiritualis,* &c.
summ̃ = *summonicio, summonitus,* &c.
su͡s̃ (p col͡) = *suspensus, suspendatur,* &c. (*per collum*).
t̃, ta͡ = *talea.*
teñ = *tenens, tenet,* &c.
to͡le = *totale*: *see* Section I.
ũ *or* ṽ = *versus.*
v. o. = *virtute officii.*
ve. fa. = *venire facias.*
vic̃ = *vicecomes.*
= *vicinus.*
vi͡s̃ (franc̃ p͡) = *visus* (*franci plegii*).

LIGATURES, CONJOINED LETTERS, AND TIES

It may be desirable here to point out the sense in which these words have been used in the present work. We employ the word *tie* to indicate that continuation-stroke by which, in any current handwriting, a letter is joined to the one following it without the writer lifting his pen. *Ligature* we reserve for the case where two letters are joined in some special way which involves a definite modification in the form of one or both. In practice, two varieties of *ligature* may be distinguished. The first is where there occurs an added stroke or limb which is not (as a *tie* is) a mere continuation of some part of the first of the two letters: the best instances of this, the *ligature* proper, are the *ct* and *st* ligatures which will be found treated under the letters concerned. The second variety is where a single stroke serves equally as a part of both letters; a well-known case being that in which the final stroke of *N* serves also as the vertical part of a following *T*, as it might in a modern 'monogram'. Examples of these '*Conjoined Letters*' (which are of less regular occurrence) will be found treated separately under that title (p. 67 below). But in the preliminary notes to the Plates we have used the word *Ligatures* to cover both varieties.

PRACTICAL HINTS ON TRANSCRIPTION

The beginner will be well advised to attempt at first only documents of which he can without difficulty obtain a correct version to compare with his own. This will be of more service than anything else in helping him to measure the extent and the limitations of his knowledge. He will find that, although reading letter by letter, as he has been taught, has its uses, the trained reader relies far more on knowledge of the nature of the document which he transcribes than on his palaeographical attainments. It is for this reason that we advise that abbreviations should, so far as possible, be replaced in the transcript by the extensions for which they stand. It will be found impossible to produce an accurate copy in 'record hand' or 'record type' without knowing exactly how each abbreviation is to be interpreted; and the habit of copying after this style without due regard to the sense is completely demoralizing to the copyist.

The first essential, then, is a reasonable familiarity with the language of the document, whether English, Latin, or Anglo-French, and here it is well to warn the beginner against all temptations to correct the diction of the original. When an old document appears to be ungrammatical, it is always wise for the transcriber to suspect that he himself may have misread it. This caution does not of course apply to vulgarisms such as the use of *quod* in oblique oration, but more especially to false concords or pieces of apparent nonsense. In the same way, a certain amount of historical and legal knowledge is obligatory if ridiculous mistakes are to be avoided. For the student of English documents, which are so generally and so markedly official in character, an essential preliminary to correct interpretation is very often a knowledge of the administrative processes of which any particular Record once formed a part. It is not within our province to dwell on this *History of Administration*, but the student will gain some idea of its main lines from the CONSPECTUS OF DOCUMENTS OF WHICH FACSIMILES ARE GIVEN. It will also be found that the very possibility of seeing what is actually written often depends on the power of the reader to imagine for himself what ought to have been written, and to check his hypotheses by what he can see: indeed, it is not too

much to say that you cannot read a word with certainty unless you know what it is. The importance of these extraneous methods of verification may be exemplified by an enumeration of some of the common sources of error.

(1) Erroneous extension of suspensions, e.g. Comes And. (for *Andegavie*) as *Comes Andalusie*; or vič (*vicecomes*) as *Vincent* or *Vicarius*. A suspension may also be mistaken for a contraction: thus, dominam Friš (*Frisie*) was once extended *dominam fratris* and rendered 'his brother's mistress'.

(2) Erroneous extension of contractions. Thus tm., which in early examples means *tamen*, is usually *tantum* in later times. Cet$^{\text{o}}$orum, by the omission of the contraction, has been read *cetorum*, instead of *ceterorum*.

(3) Confusion of similar letters:

i, m, n, and v. These, being frequently indicated only by a number of precisely similar strokes ('minims'), cause constant confusion, especially when the writer miscounts the number required. Such words as *vinum, vivum, minimum, nimium, numinum, minium, munimini, imminui*, or *nummum*, can only be read by strict attention to the sense. In the same way *mammona* has been read as *in annona, sive* as *sine, movetur* as *monetur, peremit* as *pereunt*, and even *the New Inne* as *the New June*, this last being used as the title of a novel; and *āminiculo* (for *adminiculo*) once appeared as *auunculo*.

c and *t*. These are constantly written one for the other. Thus, *amita* has been read *amica, votiva* as *nociva*, &c.

a and *o* are much alike in some hands, causing (e.g.) *votiva* to be read as *nativa*.

c and *e* are much alike in some early hands. This often causes uncertainty in the reading of proper names.

f and *ſ* are often confused. Thus *Belteff* has been printed for *Beltesford*.

E and *O* are much alike: producing, for instance, *Episcopus Oxoniensis* for *Exoniensis*.

b and *v* are alike in late hands.

r is confused with *n* and sometimes with long *i*, so that the official called *Contrarotulator* has appeared as *Cantra* (treated as a proper name) *joculator*.

lb and *bb* and *w* are often written almost alike.

The runes þ and ƿ are often misread as *y*. Thus *Scutherskelf* has been printed Scuyerskelf, and one of our own Plates (XXXIV) shows *Eadward* replaced by *Eadiard*, clearly showing that the scribe took the letter for *y*.

ȝ is in like manner often confused with *z*.

Numerals are also sometimes treated as letters. *Lobulus de Langabulo* was once printed (as a proper name) for *j. obulus de langabulo* (land-gavel).

(4) The beginner must also be warned against the risk of copying the same word twice, and the more serious one of omitting one of a pair of lines beginning or ending with the same word (see p. 195, note).

It should be observed that all these difficulties beset the ancient transcriber equally with the modern one, and that they afford principles of textual criticism when dealing with copies of any date.

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Delisle (Leopold). Recueil des Actes de Henri II [with Album of Plates]. Paris, 1910.

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13th to 15th Centuries.

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New Palaeographical Society. London, 1903 (*in progress*).

Note. Some of the Publications of the *Record Commission* (1800–1837) also contain engraved facsimile Plates.

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forms of names of God and other ecclesiastical terms, as bearing on the evolution of abbreviations in general.]

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Law.

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There is a convenient glossary also in the 'Record Interpreter' but without illustrative examples.

[1] It is perhaps worth while to observe that where the mediaeval Latin dictionary fails, reference to a Classical one (such as *Facciolati*), or to one of modern French or English, will often solve the difficulty. The English scribe frequently Latinizes English words, or inserts them as they stand in a Latin document with the word *le* prefixed.

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Skeat (W. W.). Etymological Dictionary. Oxford, 1910.

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Registrum Omnium Brevium. [Various editions.] [Contains the forms of original and judicial writs, and supplies often the only means of extending the puzzling *etc.* of the Plea Rolls.]

Madox (Thomas). Formulare Anglicanum. London, 1702. [All kinds of charters and deeds.]

Hall (Hubert). A Formula Book of English Official Historical documents. 2 vols. Cambridge, 1908–9.

Note. The student should also consult, for the purpose of understanding the form of documents, the various books dealing with Records where either the *original* is *printed in full* or (often in the first volume of a series of books relating all to a single class of Records) a *General Introduction* is given. Prominent among such works are the volumes issued by the *Record Commission* (1800–1837); the Calendars now published by the *Public Record Office,* with the earlier Reports of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records (1840–1888); and the publications of the *Pipe Roll Society,* the *Selden Society,* and a number of County Record Societies.

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There will naturally be many historical, legal, and archaeological treatises to be consulted, but they are beyond the scope of this work: the list of books which may have to be used, for instance, for the interpretation of a single technical, industrial, or trade term must needs be very wide. A useful guide is

Gross (Charles), The Sources and Literature of English History to *c.* 1485. London, 1900. [A new edition is promised.]

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In conclusion we may perhaps mention by name a few leading authorities for the two subjects of General Reference—Chronology and Topography—in which help is most frequently required for the interpretation and elucidation of documents.

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DD. Maur Dantine et Charles Clemencet. L'Art de vérifier les Dates des faits historiques, des chartes, des chroniques et autres anciens monuments . . . Ed. de Saint Allais and others. 44 vols. Paris. 1818–44. [The most convenient edition is the Third, in 3 vols. Paris, 1783–7.]

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With the above may be used any good Gazetteer; the Index to the Population Tables in the Census Return (1901); and the one-inch Ordnance Survey Maps. A good guide to Topographical Works is

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A CONSPECTUS OF THE CLASSES OF DOCUMENTS OF WHICH FACSIMILES ARE GIVEN

(A.) Official (Records of Public Administration).

The organs of the English administration are derived, mediately or immediately, from the personal Court of the Sovereign, and differentiate themselves rather according to the functions which that Court fulfils than to the particular officers who compose it.

Thus:—

(1) The *Chancery* is the machinery for the expression and circulation of the King's commands. These are authenticated by the Great Seal (Plate XXX, A), which is in the keeping of the Chancellor; and are divided according to their form into Charters (Plates I, A and C; II; VII, A, B, and D; IX, B and C); Letters Patent (Plates XXX, A; XL, B); and Letters Close or Writs (Plate I, B).

Besides these there are the records of administrative processes preliminary to the issue of the Great Seal. Thus, more and more warrants, giving instructions for the more formal letters, are rendered necessary by the gradual increase of business, as the Chancellor and the Keeper of the Privy Seal in turn become detached from the King's person. We may have, accordingly, King's Bills (direct warrants) (Plate XXX, C); Letters, Writs or Bills of Privy Seal (Plate XXII, B); Secret Seal or Signet Letters or Bills (Plate XXII, C); Council Warrants (Plates XXX, B; XXXVIII, B); and departmental Warrants from the Treasury or other authorized sources. In many cases the preservation of such warrants is the only evidence of the issue of a writ.

Again, information is very frequently required by the Chancery before Letters can properly pass the Great Seal: various writs may be sent out on such occasions to local officials and returned with the required information attached, usually in the form of an Inquisition: these Inquisitions (Plate XIII, C; XXIX, B) have been classified under various headings, the most important of which are the *post mortem* and the *ad quod damnum*.

Another class of Chancery Records—the Proceedings—is noticed below.

All these Records are in course of time registered, either by

enrolment of the letters issued under the great seal, or by filing of the warrants and such of the writs as are returnable, together with any returns attached to them. The Rolls are classified according either to the form of the document or to the nature of the business with which they deal; so that we have Charter Rolls (Plates XXV; XXVIII, B; XXXIV; XLI, A), Patent Rolls (Plates X, A; XIV; XVII, A; XIX, B; XXIII, A; XXVII; XXXVIII, A), and Close Rolls (Plates XXXI; XLIII), Fine Rolls, French and Gascon Rolls, and so forth: the documents *in filaciis* form sections, more or less distinct according to their importance and bulk, in the large 'Miscellanea' class refered to again below.

(2) The Exchequer is the King's Court sitting to transact financial business. It is normally divided into the Treasury, or Exchequer of Receipt (the Lower Exchequer), and the Exchequer of Account (the Upper). The former records the receipt and issue of moneys by means of collections of tallies and files of warrants for issues (writs of *Liberate*); all of which it also enrols upon its Receipt Rolls (Plates XV; XXXIX) and Issue (or Liberate) Rolls (Plates XXII, A; XXXV).

The Exchequer of Account receives the annual accounts of the Sheriffs and registers them on the Pipe Roll (Plates IV, A; V, B; VIII; XI; XVI; XXVI) and its duplicate the Chancellor's Roll. It also settles the indebtedness of other accountants: the accounts of these at first appear on the Pipe Roll but are afterwards transferred to special Auditors, who settle the *onus* without closing the account, and thenceforth appear on the Roll of Accounts or 'Foreign Roll' (Plates XXXII; XLIV).

Subsidiary to all this are the so-called 'Parcels of Account' of all kinds (Plate XXXVI, A), from which the others were made up, and the accompanying vouchers (Plates XII, A and B; XXIII, B), all of which are filed in the office of preliminary audit (the King's Remembrancer's Office). Besides this, the current business of the Court was registered on the Memoranda Rolls of the two Remembrancers (Plates XX, B; XLI, B); and the pleas in which the King's debtors were concerned produced a special series of Plea Rolls (Plate XXVIII, A).

(3) The Court of Common Pleas, and

(4) the Court of King's Bench may both be regarded (in early times they are scarcely distinct and are both called indifferently *Curia Regis*: cf. Plate IX, A) as delegations from the King's Court for purely legal purposes; the first in respect of Civil matters, the second largely for Criminal ones. Both register their proceedings upon Plea Rolls (Plates XIII, A; XXI, A; XXIV, B: and XXIV, A;

XXIX, A; XL, A): both also file originals and supplementary documents of all kinds, the most important section of these being, perhaps, the Feet of Fines in the Court of Common Pleas (Plates XVII, B; XLII, A).

(5) The Delegation of authority to professional lawyers goes, in a way, even further in the case of the justices appointed upon various Special Commissions; such as the justices appointed to take assizes, the justices in Eyre (Plate XVIII, B), the justices appointed to 'deliver' gaols, and so forth. The Records of their proceedings, similar in character to those noted under (3) and (4), are now classed all together.

The King's Court in a non-differentiated form persists as—

(6) Parliament and

(7) Council.

Of these, Parliament registered its proceedings upon more or less regular rolls, but the Council kept nothing more formal than filed memoranda before A. D. 1500. The last remark applies also to the Chancellor, so far as concerns the equitable jurisdiction which, as the recipient of bills, or petitions, he derived from that of the Council: these bills and the answers to them, with supplementary matter, form the 'Chancery Proceedings' referred to above (Plate XXXVI, B).

The reader will have noticed in all the Courts enumerated the presence of a *Miscellanea* class of documents, generally referred to by contemporaries as *in filaciis* (to distinguish them from Enrolments); these are responsible in modern times for a number of new classes (such as the Chancery Inquisitions or the Exchequer K. R. Original Accounts and Vouchers) which may easily be separated off from them, and for a final residuum of undoubted Miscellanea, as for instance, documents such as those shown in Plates IX, D, and XIII, B. Among these are a number of documents the direct connexion of which with any public administrative process is slight—private documents which are there owing to accidents of deposit, confiscation, inheritance, and so forth. From such have come, as a rule, the instances used in our Collection of

(B.) Unofficial Records of Private Administration.

We give examples of—

(1) Bailiffs' Accounts (Plate XXXIII).

(2) Manor Court Rolls (Plates XVIII, A; XXI, B).

(3) Private deeds (Plates III; V, A; VI; VII, C; XIX, A; XX, A), and original Royal Charters (already referred to) from muniments of title.

(4) Private correspondence (Plates X, B; XII, C and D; XLII, B).

These private Records approximate very closely at all times in form and even in phraseology to their contemporary parallels among the records of public administration.[1] An even closer resemblance, however, to these latter appears in the administration and Records of those separate jurisdictions, or Palatinates, to whose holders the King assigned all such powers over their territories as he himself would possess if the grant were not made. We give as an example the facsimile of a Plea Roll of the Palatinate of Lancaster (Plate XXXVII). The Palatinates, with their Records, have now reverted to the possession of the Crown.

NOTE. The foregoing classification should be compared with the DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF PLATES given on p. 79 of this volume. It may also be contrasted with the LIST OF PLATES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO HANDWRITING, which will be found on p. 81.

[1] A good example of the extent to which this copying went is furnished by the Pipe Roll of the Bishop of Winchester, which has been published by the London School of Economics: except for the reckoning, which is largely in kind, it is almost exactly like its Exchequer parallel. The same thing may be judged by a comparison of the phraseology of any of the Court Rolls given in this collection with that of the rolls of the King's Courts of Justice.

HISTORY OF INDIVIDUAL LETTERS

NOTE

We would emphasize again the general impossibility of assigning exact limits of date to the occurrence of any given form of letter, and our remarks upon the history of the individual letters must be taken with the fullest reservation as to the possible persistence or recurrence of old forms and the appearance of 'freaks'. This is particularly the case with capitals. It is not possible to treat of these last with the detail or with even that measure of chronological exactitude which may generally be attempted in the case of ordinary letters. It will be seen that a large number of examples may be obtained, though we cannot claim that the present collection is in any way exhaustive; but although certain types and many forms may be differentiated, it happens quite often—more often even than is the case with small letters—that the usage of two or more is contemporaneous. This is particularly the case with regard to the forms. No doubt it is due partly to the fact that the attention of a writer transcribing old documents would be caught more readily by the comparatively rare capitals than by the small letters, for which he had forms of his own which came to him without thought: undoubted cases of the copying of curious capitals are not uncommon—for instance we have seen a 'beaver-tailed' *S* (a form which belongs to the 13th century) in an *Inspeximus* charter of Edward III.

Certain peculiarities and certain general characteristics of capitals may, however, be noticed. One peculiarity is the trick seen in early hands—particularly in twelfth-century Pipe Rolls, but also in Charters—of using capitals in the middle of a word (cf. Plates IV A, V B). In these cases capitals are sometimes fantastically conjoined as in the example *NT* on p. 71. For tendencies—we practically always begin with a very simple type, generally derived from the Roman; the influence of Book-hand is, of course, clearly seen at this stage. This early type usually gives place almost immediately to another—the true Court-hand; which thereafter remains constant, though giving us a large number of examples which differ widely in form and in degree of elaboration or of care in writing. The student will see from reference to the examples here given that it is

possible to assign boundaries of a kind to certain tendencies—the tendency to angularity or to narrowness in the bows of a certain group of letters; the tendency to duplicate vertical, and sometimes horizontal, lines; the tendency to produce the tail or any straight down-stroke above or below the line; the angle in the back of an ordinarily round letter, such as *B* or *E*; or the introduction of highly current forms, many of them (see the notes on *B* and *D*) very liable to confusion.

It is hardly necessary to add that a current style appears earlier in the small than in the capital letters; not only because the former are many times more frequently in use, but also because the opportunity for 'ties' between letters—one of the chief marks of currency—is naturally far greater in their case: some others, however, of the peculiarities mentioned may be looked for in the capitals at about the same time as they appear in the small letters (the wedge-shaped down-stroke for instance), though for the reasons already given they often survive longer or recur more frequently in the case of the capitals.

It is interesting to notice that our final examples in the case of capitals show like the first (though in a different way) a general simplicity of form.

a

11th and 12th Centuries. The two forms of *a* in use during this period both derive from the ordinary Caroline minuscule. They consist essentially of an oblique down-stroke more or less curved and a loop. In one form (Nos. 3 and 5) the loop is relatively small while the down-stroke shows quite distinctly, and may even be turned over into a figure 4 (Nos. 6 and 8). The other form (Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 7) has comparatively little of the down-stroke showing above the loop, and may even be written without taking the pen off the parchment (No. 7). The diphthong *æ* characteristic of early hands is treated under *e*.

13th Century. The forms already described persist, but in the earlier part of the century the letter frequently has the down-stroke strongly emphasized (Nos. 9 and 11), extending below the line, and in the case of headless *a* almost resembling a *q*. This form, however, disappears later. At the same time the top of the down-stroke of the headed *a* curls over (No. 10), ultimately closing and forming a second loop (No. 13); and this becomes the prevailing form.

14th Century. The form last described is now normal, though the headless type is found in small hands. The angularity of the letter increases towards the end of the period, which also marks

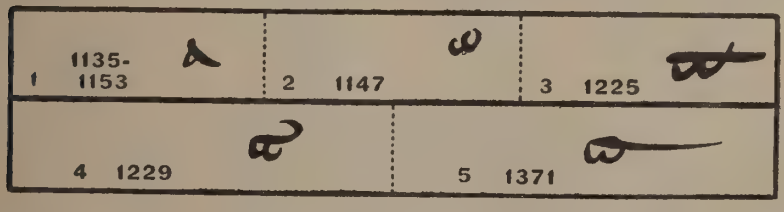
the beginning of the completely current form of looped *a* (Nos. 14 and 15), all written with one stroke of the pen.

15*th Century.* The last-mentioned form and headless *a* (No. 17) are both constantly found in this period, but looped *a* tends to give place to a squarer letter with a horizontal cross-bar (Nos. 16 and 19). Rapid and careless writing produces a very degraded cursive *a* (No. 18).

NOTE. The headless *a* is sometimes confused with *ci* or *o* and (with extended down-stroke) with *q*. Such forms as Nos. 13 and 16 are confused with *ct*.

a ABOVE THE LINE

11*th and* 12*th Centuries.* Besides the normal *a* (No. 1) the Lombardic or Merovingian open *a* resembling *u* or *cc* is found



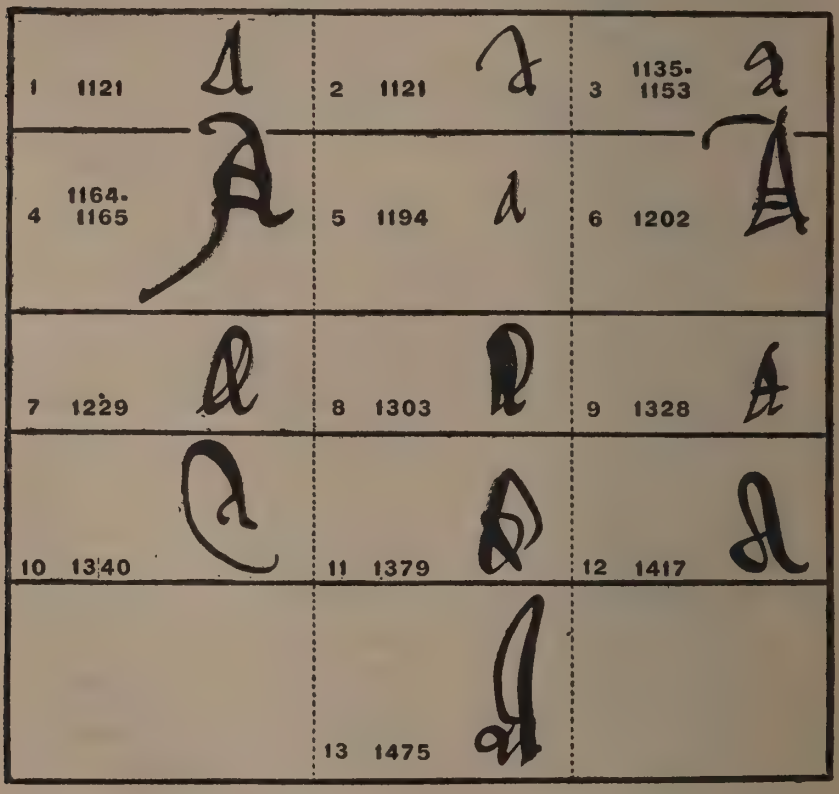
above the line as an abbreviation (No. 2). This form, though occasionally found in the 13th century, is certainly rare after 1200.

13th Century. Superior *a* is now normally closed either by the extension of the top of the left-hand half of the letter (No. 4) or by the use of a separate and somewhat emphasized horizontal stroke No. 3). The normal *a* is also sometimes found above the line, particularly in the first half of the century.

14th and 15th Centuries. The type with the horizontal top-stroke is now normal, and towards the end of the 14th century and throughout the next it tends to be written in one stroke, the final pot-hook being brought back over the top to form the top-bar (No. 5).

A

The first type is an adaptation of *a* either with or without the bowed head (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5). As a substitute for this we get

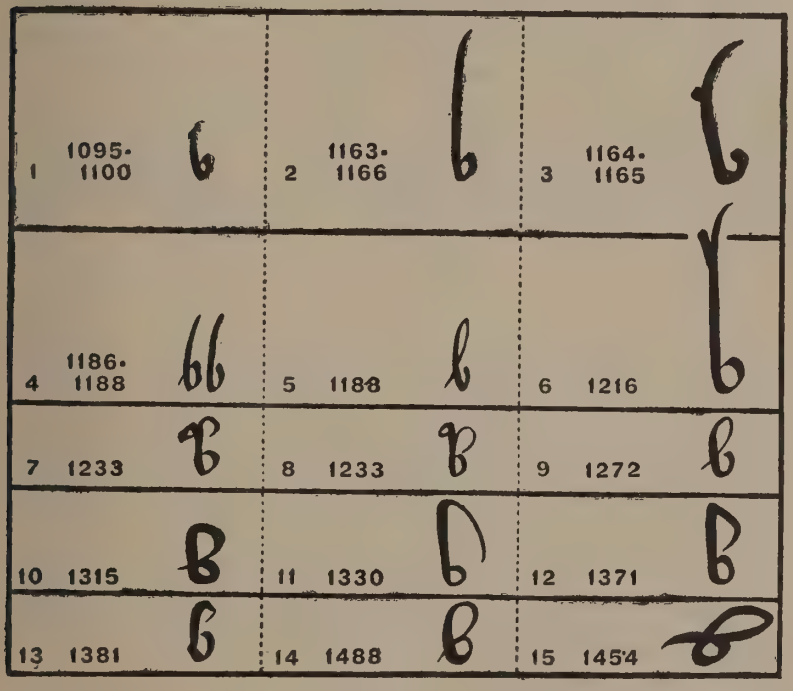


a typical capital consisting of two more or less straight strokes, meeting in a point at the top and generally each curved at the foot, joined by one or more horizontal bars (Nos. 4 and 6). From the

end of the 12th century the form most used is a rather angular enlargement of the small unbowed *a* (No. 5); which becomes more and more quick in the writing till it takes the regular, round cursive form made without lifting the pen (Nos. 7, 8, 11). This persists almost to the end of our period, though there also appears an enlargement of the contemporary forms of bowed *a* (Nos. 10 and 12) and a fifteenth-century form (No. 13) with the typical angular and looped back found also in other letters (e.g. *C*).

b

11*th and* 12*th Centuries.* Beginning from the ordinary minuscule *b* (Nos. 1 and 3), usually slightly notched at the top and formed, as the ligatures show, in two strokes, first the down-stroke and then



the bow, we reach at the end of the century a form with a slightly curved down-stroke, not notched but frequently joined to a previous high letter. In this form the bow is frequently left open unless it is carried on from a low letter preceding (Nos. 4 and 5).

13*th Century.* In this period the prevailing type of *b* is notched at the top and turned over. The right-hand limb of the notch is

in the earlier part of the century carried on from the previous letter and the left hand added as a serif (Nos. 7 and 8), though the form with the bow carried on as in the previous century is also found (No. 9).

14th Century. The notched *b* disappears very early, giving place to a simple looped *b* (No. 10), and in course of time the loop gives place to a mere hook, thus breaking the connexion with the preceding letter (No. 11), the angle of the hook becoming gradually sharper (Nos. 12 and 13).

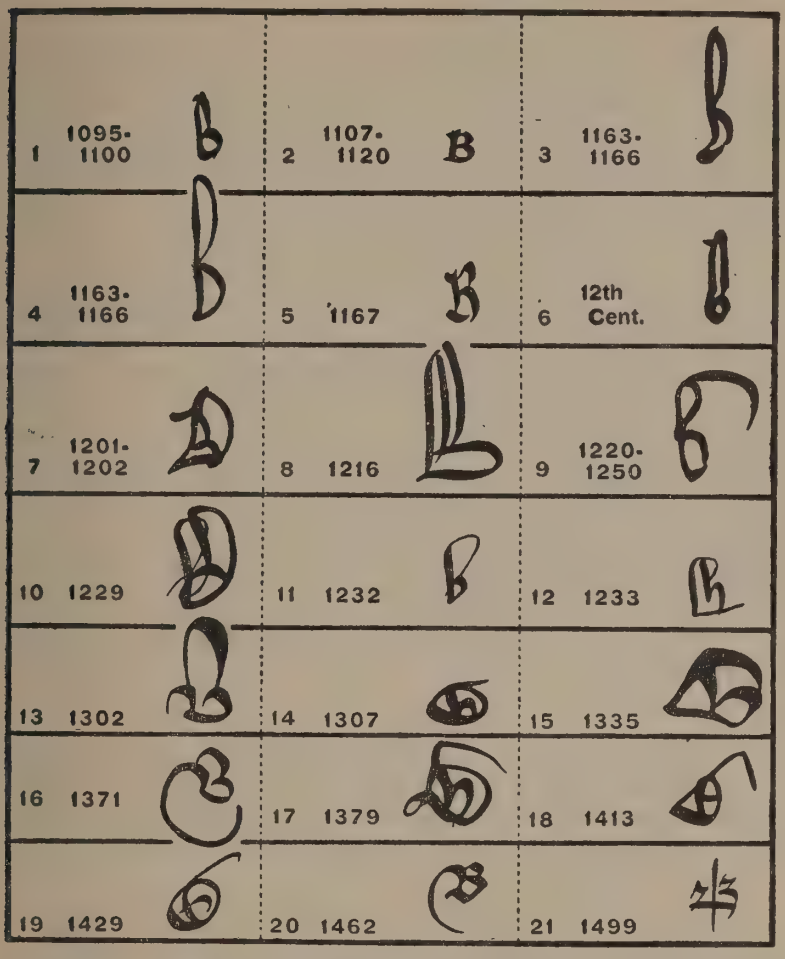
15th Century. The hooked form of *b* continues, but the hook is frequently joined up to the preceding letter, and the whole letter is now written without lifting the pen from the parchment (No. 15). Towards the end of the century the loop becomes less angular (No. 14). The conjoined *br* should also be observed (see Plate XL A, l. 2, &c.).

NOTE. *lb* and *bb* are when carelessly written very easily confused, and some forms of *b* (e.g. No. 14) are not unlike *v*; so that it is sometimes impossible, owing to the phonetic resemblance between the letters, to decide which the scribe really meant. Another point to be noticed is the tendency of *b* to appear conjoined with a following round letter, such as a second *b*, an *e*, or an *o*: the same tendency may be seen in *d* and, particularly, *þ*, q.v. See also the special notes on p. 68.

B

This is one of the capitals which is of the same type throughout; though such great modifications are introduced that the connexion between the early and the later forms is, without the intermediates, barely traceable. *B* well exhibits in turn all the more general characteristics of capital-writing during our period. The letter begins with the ordinary Roman form, made up of a down-stroke and two bows done in three strokes of the pen (Nos. 1 and 2). The points to notice in our first example are the angularity of the bows and the very typical narrowness of the top one. In No. 3 the down-stroke seems to have been made, like an *L*, with a thick horizontal stroke at the bottom and the two bows are simple curves. In this and the next form (No. 4) though the breadth of the two bows is the same an appearance of narrowness is given by the great length of the top one. This is followed by yet another distinct variant in which the two bows meet before they reach the stem: we have here (No. 5) a more ordinary form of the capital with a noticeable dash at the foot of the down-stroke, a leading stroke at the

head of the same formed separately, not by crossing of the upper bow, and a lower bow which does not join the down-stroke. No. 7 is very much changed: the whole letter, with its down-stroke curved out to the left at the foot and with a very angular upper and very broad lower bow, would form a triangle; but to it is



added—the first symptom of currency—a large outer bow or loop on the right-hand side, running from the outer edge of the lower bow to the angular head of the letter. In No. 8 we have again the very broad lower bow together with the typical extra down-stroke in the centre of the upper bow; and immediately following this is a form with thin down-stroke and equal sized bows—very simple save for a flourish at the head going out wide on the right side.

No. 10 is remarkable for the way in which the upper and lower bows are made by a continuation of the down-stroke: the whole letter is like an *O* made in one action (which ends with a vertical stroke down the centre) and divided in two by a separate cross-stroke. In No. 12 we get the curious form from which—with some recurrences of the simpler original shapes—all the subsequent examples are derived: it consists of a simple *L* enclosing an *h*, the latter a development of the two bows.

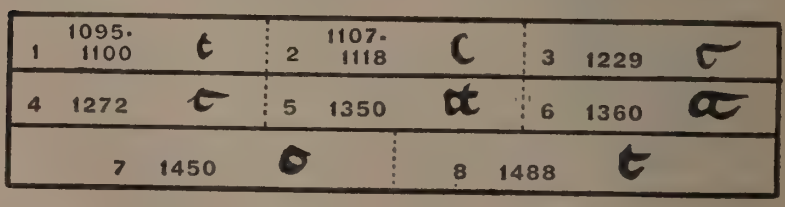
It is worth noting at this point that *B* shows a clearer line of descent through curious changes from one form to another than perhaps any other letter, small or capital. This fact may be verified by a comparison of Nos. 2, 1, 5, 8, 7, 10, 12, 14, and 19, in that order, in the accompanying block.

The remaining instances may be dismissed shortly: in most the *h* part predominates (the confusion of *B* and *H* in the 14th century is very easily made), the *L* part being represented by an encircling flourish (No. 14) having sometimes (Nos. 15 and 18) a markedly angular back: in No. 17, though the letter is made currently in one action, the *L* part is once more prominent. But one more form is noticeable (Nos. 18 and 19): it is made with almost the same action as No. 10, though the resulting appearance is different. This round current form should be carefully noted because it is the first of a series: similar forms, very liable to confusion, of other capitals—*C*, *D*, *E*, *G*, *O*, *R*—are found at the same periods: cf. notes on *D*.

The recurrence of the simpler *B* forms at the end of our period has already been mentioned.

C

11th and 12th Centuries. The ordinary minuscule *c* (No. 2) is the standard form during this period, the top being somewhat exaggerated towards the end of the 12th century, and being formed



by a stroke running obliquely downwards to the right. It seldom extends beyond the body of the *c* to the left. The old great *c* (p. 10, Nos. 1–3) continues to be found in the ligature *ct* until the

middle of the 12th century, after which it gives place to a combination of the ordinary *c* with a *t* the top of which is considerably above the line (*Ibid.* No. 4). There is no confusion with *t* during this period, since *t* has a flat top extending to the left beyond the body of the letter, but it will be observed that many words in which *t* comes before *i* followed by another vowel are spelt phonetically with a *c*, and this no doubt helped to produce the confusion between the two letters which we meet with later.

13th Century. The shape of *c* is not materially altered, but the increasing carelessness of the scribes causes *c* and *t* to be written almost indiscriminately. The two letters can generally be distinguished, though not always, but the writers seem frequently to have been indifferent which letter they employed. Towards the end of the century the *ct* ligature loses its distinctive character and resembles an ordinary *c* and *t* written close together. *c* is also found in ligature with *h* and even with *r*, the top stroke in both cases forming the bond. We note an instance of current writing in which the cross of the *c* is continued to form a tie with a following *l*. A similar use in the previous century is shown under *t*.

14th Century. About the middle of the 14th century the tall *t*, which, in *ct* at all events, was probably never completely dropped, reappears (No. 5). Both letters begin to assume a more angular form. At the same time the body of *t* begins to come through the top-stroke, thus rendering the distinction clearer, though not enough to be certainly discerned when both letters are carelessly written and the top-stroke of *t* is not kept horizontal.

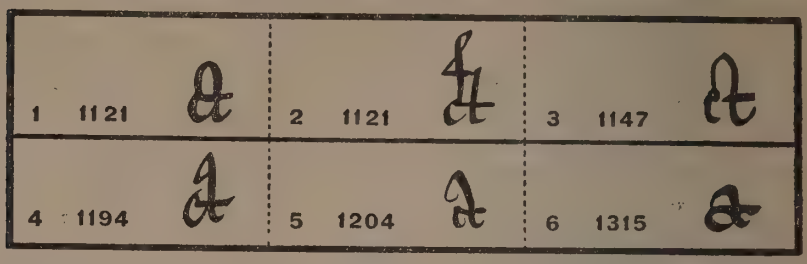
15th Century. There is no marked change in the forms of *c* and *t* except that the latter tends to become taller. When joined to other letters they are still easily confused (No. 8).

NOTE. In the 11th and 12th centuries *c* and *e* are more likely to be confused, afterwards *c* and *t*. *sc* is hardly ever found in ligature, while *st* is constantly so at all periods.

Note on *ct* ligature.

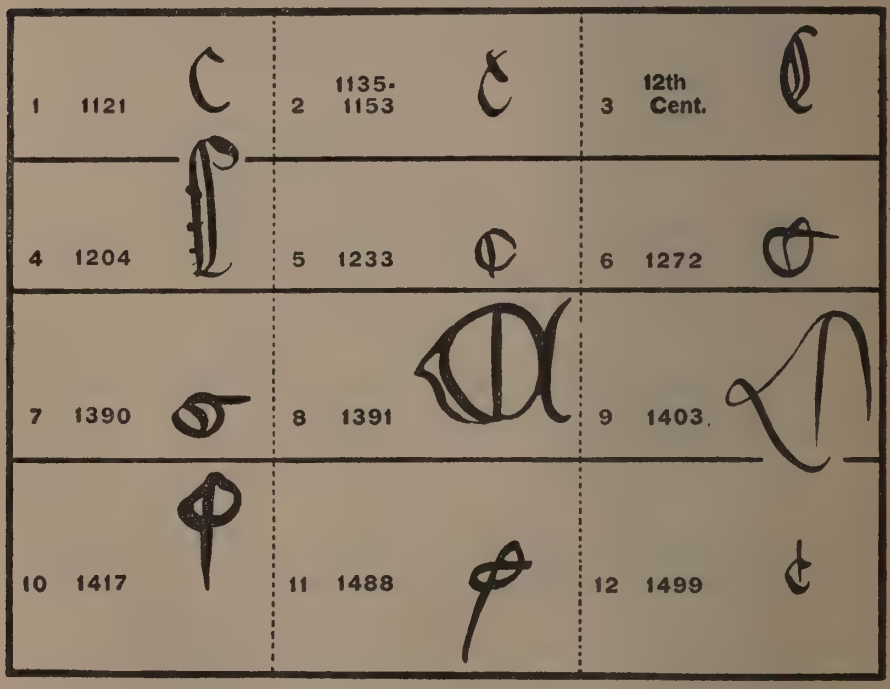
Of the six examples given of this combination it will be noticed that the first two show a ligature between the crosses of the *c* and *t*: in the second there is also a highly ornamental mark connecting the heads of the two letters: in the third the heads are again joined, but by a simple curved stroke only: in the fourth and fifth the *t* has a flourished head which does not, however, join the *c* (compare the two much later *ct*s mentioned below): in the sixth, another rather later example and in a more current hand, the

down-stroke of the *c* is made first and then its cross, which, carried on, forms the cross of the *t*, the down-stroke of the latter begins with a flourish from above the *c*, which it sometimes touches:



several of these forms, but particularly the last, are extremely liable to confusion with *a*. In the plate of ordinary *c*s above (p. 8), two examples are given of the common later usage in which the two down-strokes are made first (whether for *cc* or *ct*) and a single cross added for both letters. See also under *t*.

C

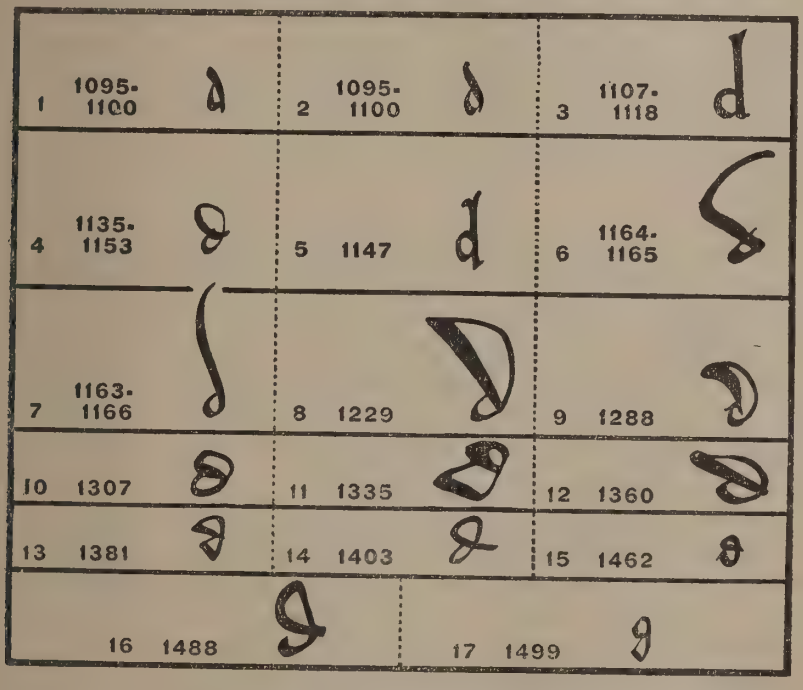


The first type is an ordinary capital of the simplest form—little more than a mere curve (No. 1). The second is very definitely an enlargement of the small *c*, a semicircle with a diagonal dash

added at the top (No. 2). The dash disappears, while we find one or more vertical lines through the middle of the letter added (No. 3). Later, the centre of the back tends to take an angular form, an extreme development of which is seen in No. 9. Another variation consists in the prolongation of the vertical line above or below the main part of the letter (Nos. 10 and 12). Between the last two types we see an instance of the letter made in one action without lifting the pen (No. 11); a similar form, but begun from a different point, is found earlier in No. 6. It is to be noted that the vertical line, once introduced, is practically never abandoned.

d

11th and 12th Centuries. Two forms of *d* are found in documents of this period, the minuscule (Nos. 3 and 5), resembling the Saxon type seen in *subsidium*, l. 3 of Plate I A), and the uncial (Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7). The first of these is usually found in more formal hands, and may be regarded as having been completely displaced by the latter towards the end of the 12th century.



13th Century. About the beginning of the 13th century, the current form of *d*, of which we give an earlier example in No. 4, becomes frequent, the pot-hook at the base of this form being

continued upwards and turned over to form the down-stroke which closes the letter (No. 8); and this rapidly displaces the uncial type, which is not common after the beginning of the century. The oblique down-stroke is at first very strongly marked, giving the letter a somewhat angular appearance, but in the latter part of the century the letter becomes broader in the middle and more rounded (No. 9).

14*th Century*. About the middle of this century the bow of the *d* becomes exaggerated and somewhat angular in appearance, the oblique down-stroke becoming nearly horizontal (No. 12), and in the later years of the period the base also becomes angular, causing the letter to have a distinct waist (No. 13).

15*th Century*. The two preceding forms survive during this period, although the almost horizontal down-stroke is somewhat modified and becomes less emphatic (No. 14). The most usual form, however, is a more rounded and hastily written letter (No. 15), easily confused with the contemporary form of *e*, and without any distinct waist. This is frequently found in ligature with a following letter, the join being made from the centre of the *d* (No. 16). We give an angular form from the end of the century (No. 17).

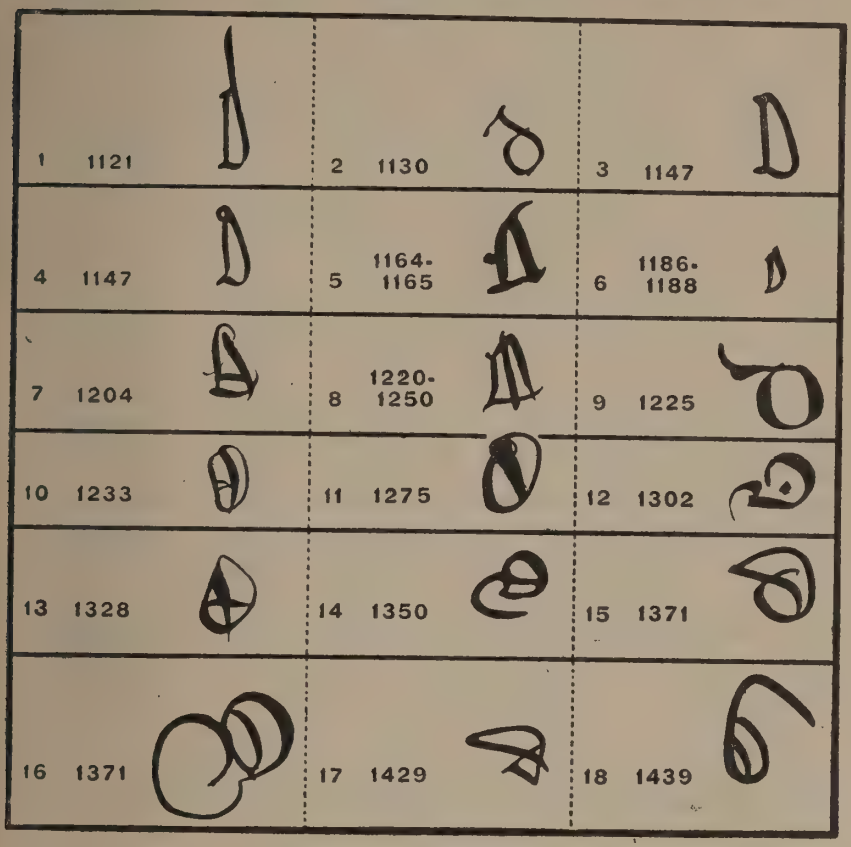
Note. It should also be noticed that the early round form of *d* is frequently found conjoined with a following round letter; cf. *b* and, particularly, *p*. See also the special note on p. 68.

D

This capital again gives us at first two distinct types: one is modelled on the Roman (No. 1), though our example is made in three strokes—a down-stroke, a bow, and a horizontal dash at the foot, and comes very near to being open at the top; the other is an enlargement of the small *d* of the rounded type (No. 2). For a time the first type seems to prevail, and it will be found quite late among our examples, but the popular type—as being the most current—was, ultimately, the second.

Of Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, all of the capital type, No. 6 is noticeable for being made in two strokes—it has dropped the horizontal at the foot; No. 5 has the horizontal transverse-stroke and has also a beak at the head of the down-stroke, of which a very curious development is seen in No. 8, where it takes the form of a line running down at an acute angle to the exaggerated dash at the foot from the head of the first down-stroke. Nos. 9, 10, and 11 are of the second type mentioned above, the last two being curious additions to the class of con-

fusible letters which includes *C*, *E*, and *O*: the same remark applies to No. 13, which, consisting practically of a circular line or *O* enclosing a + sign, is remarkably like an *E*. The cross-stroke in this last form was an unnecessary addition and was soon dropped: but the fact is that the easiest form of this letter, and of several others, was found to be a circular mark modified either at the beginning or end according to the letter it was intended to



represent; greater or less care on the part of the scribe made the resulting letter more or less distinguishable from others made in the same way. The student will find it useful to compare the application of this method in the case of *B*, *C*, *D*, *E*, *G*, *H*, *O*, *Q*, and *R*: he will find it in use at various times from the beginning of the 13th century up to the end of our period. Our last example of *D* (from the middle of the 15th century) is an instance of the way in which this method may be used without confusion resulting: examples of the reverse are at least equally common.

e

11th and 12th Centuries. The earliest form of *e* in this period is formed of three separate portions—a down-stroke resembling the first limb of an *m* or *n*, a second short stroke, and a thin oblique cross-stroke joining the other two (Plate I A, l. 3, *victuale*). This form, however, quickly gives place to another on the model of a *c*, in which the second down-stroke and the oblique stroke soon come to be made without raising the pen from the parchment (No. 1): at the same time the initial hook or beak of the first down-stroke disappears. This change seems to take place about the beginning of the 12th century, and is more characteristic of an

early hand than the separate formation of the oblique cross-stroke, which continues to occur through the greater part of the 12th century.

The diphthong *æ* is also an early form, being replaced after 1100 or thereabouts by an *e* with a subscript loop (Nos. 2, 3, 4). Neither of these forms is usual after A. D. 1200, but a curious instance of the misuse of the earlier form is found in l. 26 of Plate IX A, where *sororæm* is written for *sororem*. Both forms appear in capitals as well as small letters (see below). It will be observed that the oblique cross-stroke of the *e* is used for ligatures with both preceding and following letters.

13th Century. Throughout the next century the second variety of *e* is the dominant form, the oblique cross-stroke being turned

back from the top of the letter. But the down-stroke which forms the body of the *e* is less regularly formed, and runs off obliquely to the right, giving the letter a somewhat recumbent appearance (Nos. 5 and 6). The oblique cross-stroke does not always touch the stem of the letter, especially in the later hands, and in final *e* is often altogether left out. It is also less uniformly employed for ligatures, and rarely forms the ligature with a preceding letter.

NOTE. The form of *e* in which the cross-stroke is small and does not touch the stem is easily confused with *c*.

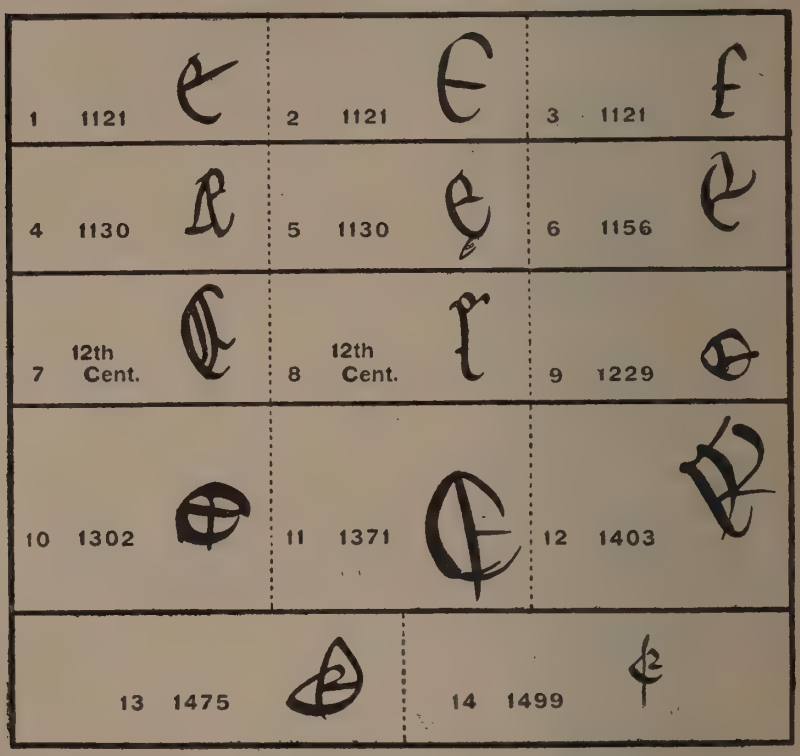
14th Century. The last-described form persists during the first quarter of the next century (Nos. 7 and 8). It then gives place to a form in which the letter can be made all in one piece. The first down-stroke is more rounded, and the tail carried up and brought down again with a short thick down-stroke which completes the head of the letter (No. 9), which thus forms a circle or ellipse the shorter diameter of which is a thick almost vertical stroke. This change is not, however, universal, and the *e* in two pieces (No. 10), both with and without the oblique cross-stroke, continues to occur in some hands through the whole period.

15th Century. The development of the circular or elliptical *e* now proceeds by the shortening of the original down-stroke. The tail is thus brought still further over, so that the thick cross-stroke gradually turns over and becomes horizontal (No. 11). In rapid writing the joining is careless and a broken-backed letter results, which is characteristic of the period (No. 12) and somewhat resembles a *d*. Form No. 5 does not, however, completely disappear (Nos. 13 and 16), at all events in the earlier part of the century. Towards the close of the period it will be observed that the upper loop of form No. 12 is reduced in size as compared with the whole letter (No. 15).

NOTE. *e* is a letter which, like *B*, passes through a large number of remarkable but well-defined and connected changes; as may be seen by a careful comparison of Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 15. Our block also furnishes good specimens of the difference between separate examples of one letter caused by the divergence of highly formal and highly current hands at the end of of our period: contrast, for instance, Nos. 11 and 12, or Nos. 14 and 15.

E

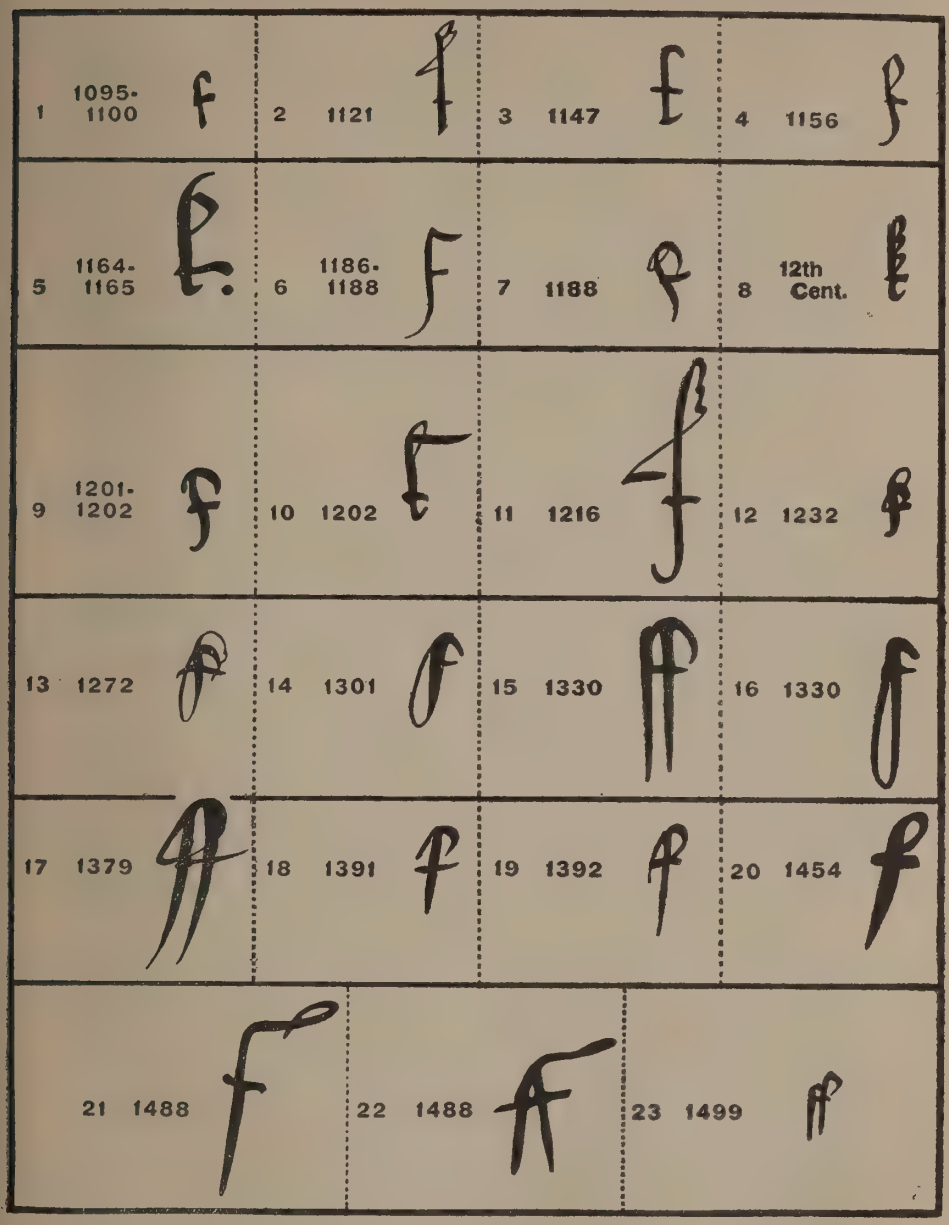
As is the case with *C*, this capital's first form is an enlargement of the small letter of the period, but there is a contemporary form of the uncial type (No. 2). About the same time are to be noticed two forms of the diphthong *Æ* (Nos. 4 and 5): in both, the first of the types of *E* noted above is used, in one combined with an *A* of the typical angular form, in the other marked with a subscript only in exact reproduction of the ordinary small letter.



The uncial type ultimately prevails, but is developed into a rather elaborate letter (foreshadowed in No. 3), consisting of a curved back, one or more vertical lines (as in the *C*) and one short horizontal line (No. 7). A further development of this form results in what is often very near to a complete circle enclosing a +, a form common in the 13th century and very liable to confusion with *O*, again like *C* (No. 9). Later, the angular back appears (No. 12), and towards the end of our period we have a current form—a little more complicated than the *C* and therefore less common—(No. 13), and finally an example (No. 14) which seems to combine curiously the two types first mentioned.

f

11th and 12th Centuries. The earliest forms of this letter are derived respectively from the Anglo-Saxon and the minuscule *f*.



The former is set low, the top not rising above the line, and showing a marked cleft: the formation is like that of a modern *r*, the

down-stroke having a distinct beak: the cross of the *f* comes nearly on the line. This form is not usually found except in Anglo-Saxon documents (e.g. Plate I c). The minuscule form stands much higher, the tail reaching only a short way below the line and the cross being about level with the tops of the smaller letters (Nos. 1 and 2). The principal change in this standard form is in the gradual curvature of the tail during the 12th century (Nos. 4 and 6), and in the separation of the top from the down-stroke, the hook being made by a distinct stroke (Nos. 4–8). Another form not going below the line, and with marked 'feet' made by bringing up the tail of the down-stroke, will be found in (Nos. 3, 5, 8). In all these forms the cross of the *f* goes right through and is sufficient to distinguish *f* from *s*. Ligatures are usually made from the cross.

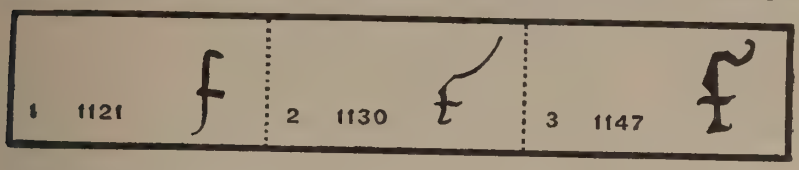
13*th Century*. The dominant form during this period is derived from No. 6, the curved down-stroke of the beginning of the century gradually giving place to a wedge-shaped one (No. 13). Throughout, and even before, the period, the down-stroke frequently has a looped head quite distinct from the hook of the *f*, the two together producing a curious flourish (Nos. 7, 10, 12, 13). The tail of the *f* is also frequently turned up, and continued to form the hook (No. 13). Double *f* is made by doubling the down-stroke but only adding one hook. Note the confusion betweeen *ft* and *st*, the ligature being in both cases from the hook, and the cross of the *t* confounding itself with that of the *f*.

14*th Century*. In the earlier part of the century the letter retains the form last described, a wedge-shaped down-stroke with a tail which is brought up to form the hook (No. 14), (or sometimes only to form the cross of the *f* (No. 16) or an abbreviation mark, the hook being a separate stroke). A late instance of this form, with the tail forming one of the triangular spaces characteristic of the period, will be found on Plate XXV, l. 14. This form gives place in the last quarter of the century to one with a tailless down-stroke: in this the hook is angular, the join with the down-stroke being no longer rounded off (No. 18). The hook is sometimes brought down to form the cross (No. 19).

15*th Century*. The last two types persist through the whole of the fifteenth century, but towards the middle of this period the angle of the hook becomes more obtuse, sometimes standing out at right angles to the down-stroke, or even turning upwards (No. 21). Ultimately the letter assumes a rounded form (No. 20). A curious compass-like quality in the down-strokes of the double *f* is particularly noticeable towards the end of our period (No. 22). The same characteristic appears in the similar paragraph mark (p. 77, No. 4).

F

This capital might almost be said not to exist. Till nearly the end of the 13th century we have hardly anything which can be distinguished from the small letter: we give here three examples



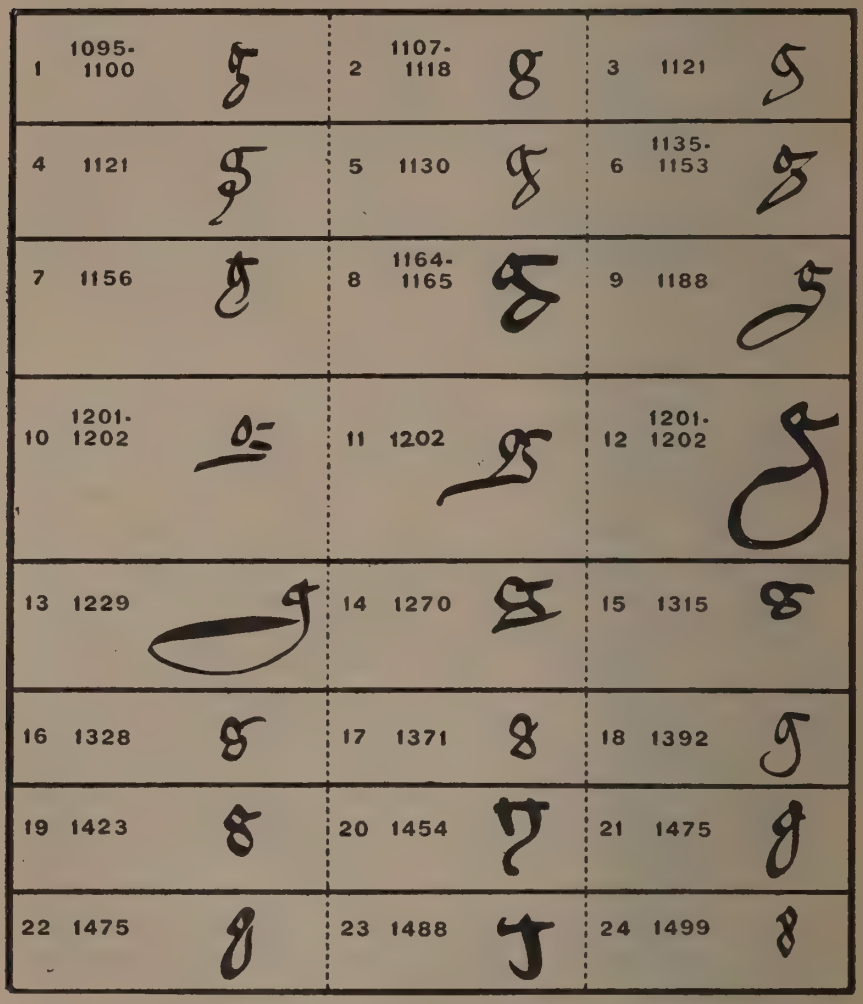
undoubtedly larger than the small *f*, but it will be seen that they follow the contemporary form very closely. After this, the capital is usually represented by *ff*, examples of which are given above under *f*.

g

11th and 12th Centuries. The two earliest forms of the letter are the straight-topped Saxon form, which disappears early in Latin documents, though surviving somewhat longer in vernacular (see below under *Runes*), and the contemporary minuscule form (No. 1) from which the later forms of the letter are derived. Note in both the horizontal dash which persists through our period. The minuscule form resembles a straightened letter of the Saxon shape with a bow like a *c* at the back; this bow is not always closed at the bottom. A twelfth-century form is made in three pieces—the bow, the curved down-stroke with recurved tail, and the horizontal dash which usually leaves the down-stroke below its junction with the bow (Nos. 3–9); or else the bow is bent down in an angle to meet the combined down-stroke and dash. The bend in the down-stroke also varies, one form having a sharp angle like a 5 (No. 4). In one form of the earliest years of the next century, the bow has a short stroke running down from it which meets the tail of the down-stroke and forms a closed *g* (No. 11). Ligatures are formed by the prolongation of the horizontal dash.

13th Century. At the end of the 12th century a form begins to occur in which the bow and the tail are made in one stroke, the horizontal dash and the front of the *g* being formed by adding an acute angle (No. 9), the tail of the letter forming a complete loop. Other forms also occur; e. g. Plate XIII shows one where the body of the letter and the connecting dash are separately made, and even

the tail is in two separate strokes (No. 10). A slightly later example resembles Nos. 1 and 3, except that the down-stroke is without any sharp bend (Nos. 12 and 13). About the middle of this century the current form is made in two parts—the back of the body and the front of the loop in one *s* shaped curve, the front of the body



and the back of the loop in another somewhat like a *z* (No. 14). Another form in the last quarter of the century is formed in a continuous curve, the tail of the *g* ending in a marked twist.

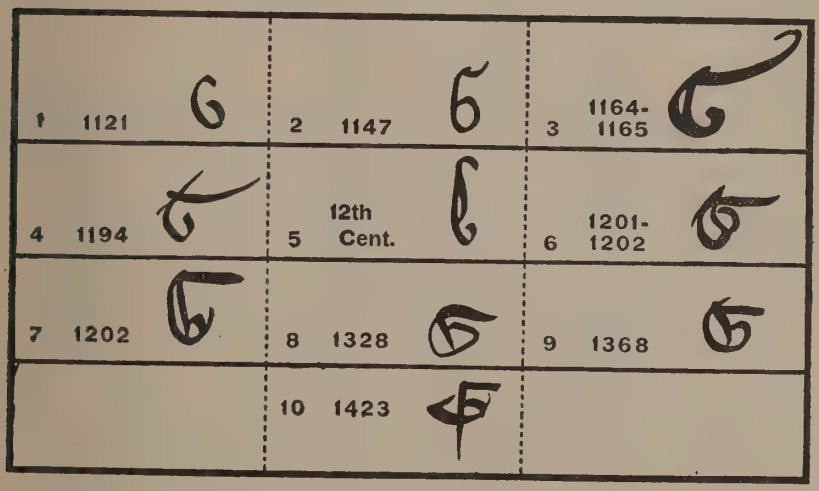
14th Century. During this period the last two forms continue to occur, the latter being now usually without the final twist and often

made in three pieces (No. 16). Towards the end of the period the form of the letter becomes altogether more angular (No. 17).

15th Century. The forms of the previous century are retained, but a completely current form is also found somewhat like a figure 8 (No. 19) made without taking the pen from the parchment. Towards the end of the century the angularity completely disappears, and in current hands a long-tailed letter is found, made much like a modern written *g* (No. 21). Another form characteristic of the latter half of the 15th century has the head and tail formed by two vertical down-strokes with a horizontal cross-stroke (Nos. 20 and 23).

G

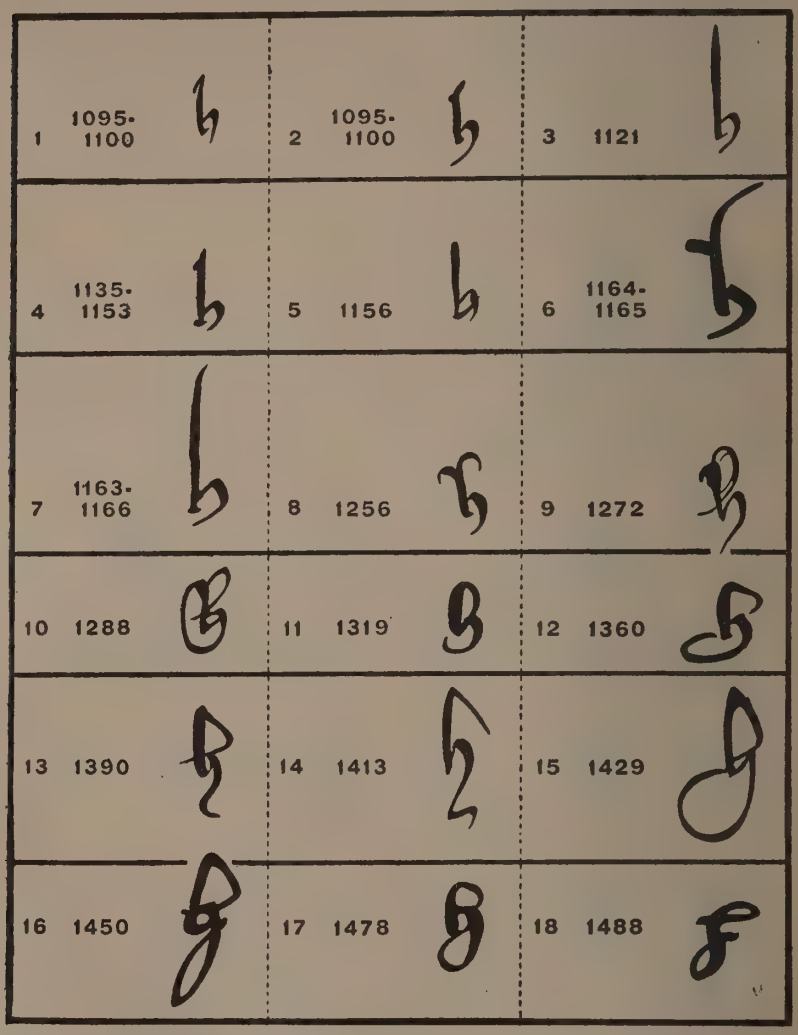
The first example of this letter is of the simplest capital type (No. 1). In No. 5 it is seen to have acquired the vertical line shown in contemporary *C* s and *E* s. And Nos. 2, 3, and 4 show it with the long horizontal stroke (in the second case curling upwards) added



to the top of the letter. This horizontal stroke remains as a characteristic of *G* throughout: its variations are shown in the following examples. The next form of interest is No. 6, where the letter becomes highly current: it is now made apparently in one stroke, which begins with the vertical line, producing an effect in some cases very like that of an *H* (No. 7). The only other variant of this form having particular interest among those here shown is No. 10, with its prolonged down-stroke.

h

11th and 12th Centuries. There is not very much distinctive about *h*. The eleventh- and twelfth-century examples are made in two strokes of the pen (No. 1). The top of the letter has a tendency to be notched (Nos. 2 and 6), and the lower end of the same stroke



often has a distinct foot, sometimes large enough to touch the other limb of the letter (Nos. 4 and 5).

13th Century. *h*, like the other letters which rise above the line, has its head at first looped (as in Plate XIII, A), and afterwards floreated (Nos. 8 and 10: note the current form of 10).

14*th Century.* The floreation gives place first to a loop (No. 11), or a plain hook (No. 12), which gradually increases in angularity till at the end of the century the triangular looped head comes in (No. 13).

15*th Century.* The head now forms a triangular loop (No. 15), though the angular hook has not completely disappeared (No. 14). The whole letter becomes more current, the latter part of it springing from the foot of the first (No. 15). In other cases the foot is extended as in the 11th century (No. 16). The tail also inclines to be more flourished, ending either in a reversed curve or in a loop (No. 16), while the bow of the latter part of the letter is exchanged for a sharp turn or angle (No. 15). In the latest part of our period, in very current hands, the second part of the letter comes to be so much slurred as to form almost a straight line with the first downstroke (No. 18). This form is very common in the 16th and 17th centuries and persists in German script.

H

The capital begins, like so many, with two contemporary types, No. 1 being the Roman Capital and No. 2 a simple enlargement

of the small letter: subsequent forms are derived from the second. No. 3 is remarkable as having not only the vertical part of its bow duplicated but, in addition, a double horizontal line—an ornament. Subsequent examples vary chiefly in the treatment of the bow, which is, in turn, continued outwards at a sharp angle (No. 5), produced in a circle round the back to the head of the letter (Nos. 4 and 7), and separated, save for added cross-bars, from the back or down-stroke of the letter (Nos. 6, 8, and 9), the last a peculiarly ornate example of the duplicated-line manner). In the last example given, the capital follows the contemporary *h* in looping the lower end of the bow: it also shows a curious hump at the junction of the down-stroke and the bow.

Note that throughout the period the small *h* seems to be used freely where we should expect a capital, e.g. for proper names.

i

11th and 12th Centuries. There is nothing distinctive about the form of this letter. It is found in two patterns, the short (No. 1) and the long (Nos. 3 and 7). When two *i*s occur together they are usually accented with a thin dash (No. 2). The long form is used at the end of a word, and sometimes also at the beginning, but not like our *j* to imply a different sound. This usage generally continues throughout.

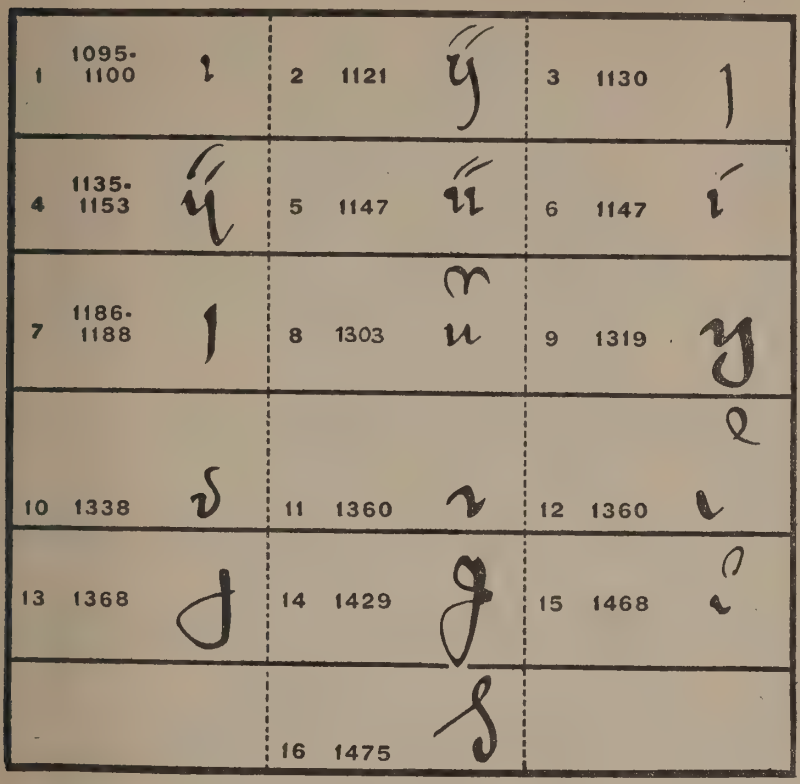
13th Century. The accentuation of *i* becomes more common, and is used to distinguish *i* from the elements of which *m* and *n* and *u* are built up. This distinction was previously frequently effected by the use of the long form. Towards the end of the century, *i* is almost invariably accented whether or not there is any risk of confusion.

14th Century. The accent of the *i* becomes more strongly marked (No. 8) and more curved, acquiring an almost circular form towards the end of the century (No. 12). It is frequently also taken up from the end of the word in a sort of flourish (No. 10). The accentuation gradually becomes less rigorous, though *ii* is generally, and *i* with *m*, *n*, or *u* frequently accented.

15th Century. The accentuation of *i* rapidly becomes less common, till in the latter half of the century it becomes the excep-

tion, although final *i* is still frequently accented by the addition of a flourish. The circular form of the accent persists (No. 15).

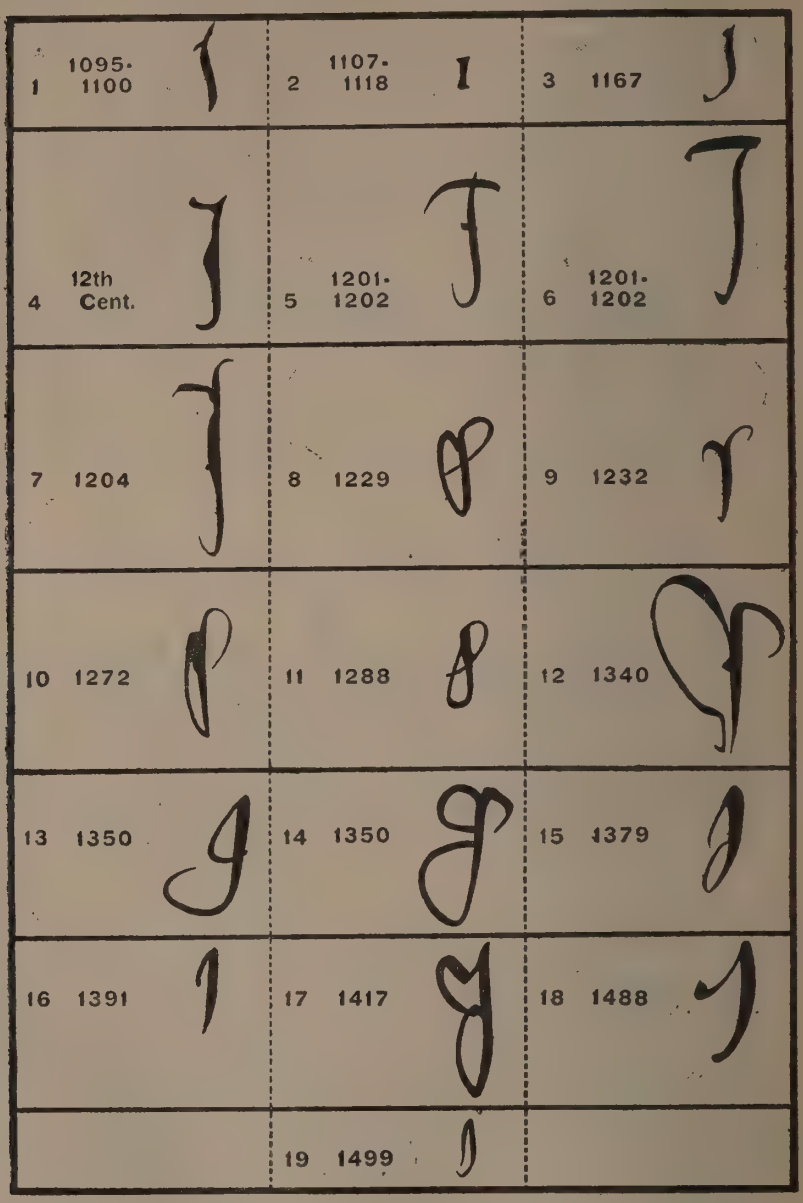
NOTE. For the use of *i* and *j* as numerals see that Heading (p. 73).



I

There is little to be said in description of this letter, which begins with a Roman I type (No. 2); this soon gives way to a type founded on the long *j* form of *i*, and varying between a straight line very slightly modified by a curve or dash to the left or right, and numerous shapes closely resembling the *J* of modern handwriting. It practically always comes well below the line. Early examples of the simpler form are seen in Nos. 1 and 3; of the more elaborate in Nos. 4, 5, 6. The forked head, characteristic of contemporary small letters, is seen in No. 7, and a curious, very current development of the same in Nos. 8 and 10. After this, the chief

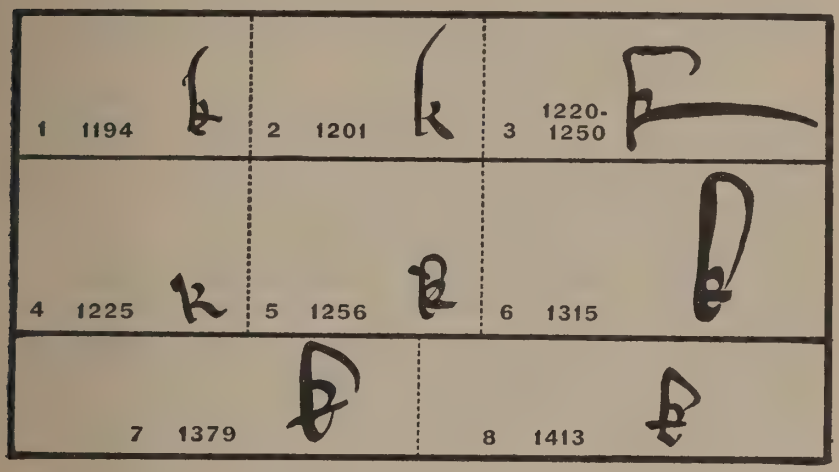
characteristic of the letter is a pronounced head (No 12) generally accompanied by various forms of closed bow at the foot. This is



one of the letters (cf. *H* and *M*) in the case of which it is sometimes difficult to say whether the scribe intended a small letter or a capital.

k

11th and 12th Centuries. In the 11th and 12th centuries the place of *k* is very often supplied by *ch*. *k*, however, does occur and is made with a plain down-stroke inclining to be notched at the top, while the body of the letter is generally formed (No. 1 is an exception) by a separate stroke somewhat resembling an *r* of the round form (No. 2), with the tail inclining downwards to the right. The foot of the down-stroke also is sometimes extended to the right (No. 2).



13th Century. Towards the end of the 12th century a more current form of *k* is found, the head of the letter being first looped and later even floreated (see notes on the almost exactly similar capital K), while the tail of the letter becomes normally horizontal (Nos. 3 and 5).

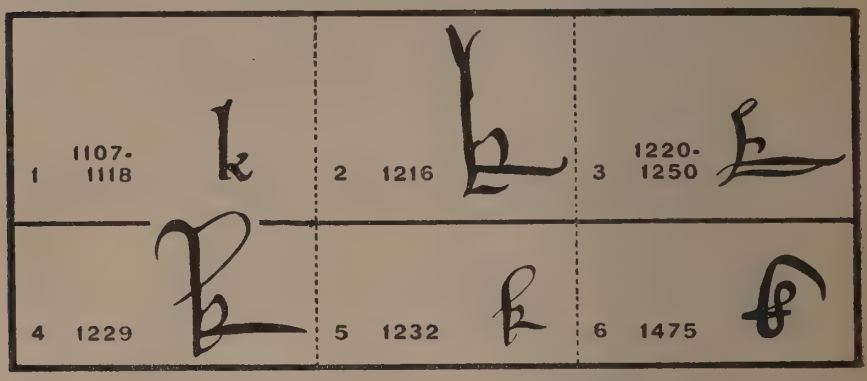
14th Century. The letter remains much the same except that the hooked head gains in fullness, and about the middle of the century assumes the characteristic triangular form. Towards the end of this century the horizontal final stroke has a tendency to project to the left through the down-stroke (No. 7).

15th Century. The triangular head descends to a simple hook and in some hands the whole letter becomes current, being written without taking the pen from the paper (No. 6 in the block of capitals). The angular foot (No. 8) and other peculiarities noticeable in certain hands of the period appear in *k* also.

K

The Roman K was used even before our period in such words as Kalendae, but is rare and is usually replaced by *CH* until the end of the 12th century: cf. the head of Plate VIII.

After this the capital follows as a rule the form of the small



letter, from which it is often barely distinguishable. The period at which it was most used (as a substitute for hard *C*) was that of elaborately forked or bowed heads, which characteristics it reproduces (Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5): like the small letter, also, it has always the markedly horizontal final line, except in the earliest instance here given (No. 1). A late and highly current form is seen in No. 6.

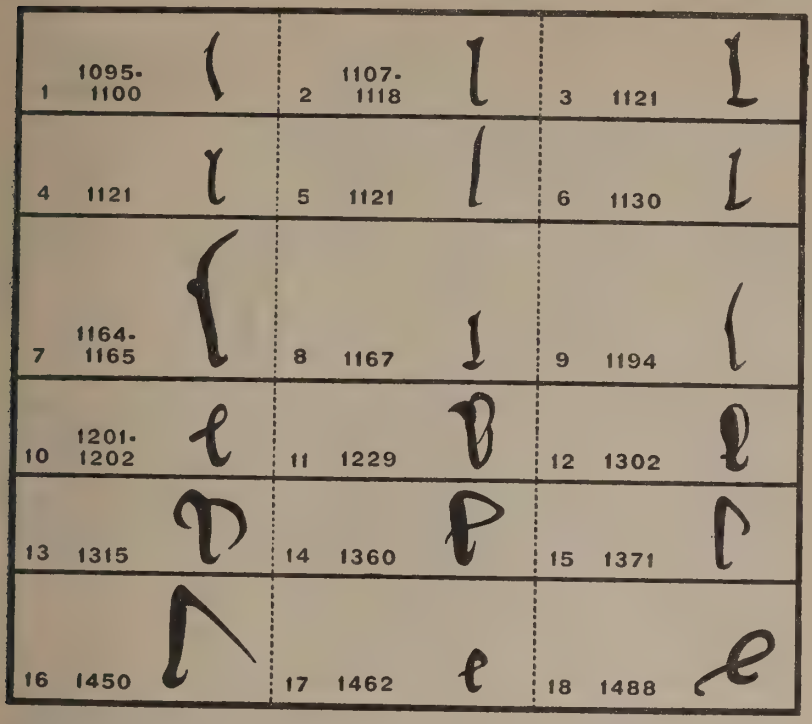
l

11th and 12th Centuries. The history of the letter *l* is substantially that of all the other tall letters. The tops of the down-strokes are at first slightly notched (No. 2), or even looped (No. 1), while later examples incline to a beak (Nos. 8 and 9), especially in cursive hands.

A form of *l* sometimes occurs in this and the next century which has a marked foot at right angles to the stem, giving the letter something of a capital appearance (Nos. 6 and 8), and *Dunelm* in l. 11 of Plate X, B).

13th Century. The beginning of the 13th century brings a loop-headed *l* running on from the previous word (No. 10); from which it is short step to the floreated *l* (No. 11), the characteristic type of the middle and latter part of the century.

14th Century. In this century the floreated *l* gives place gradually to a simple looped running *l* (No. 12), and then to a letter with the triangular loop (No. 14), a form which lasts into the next century.



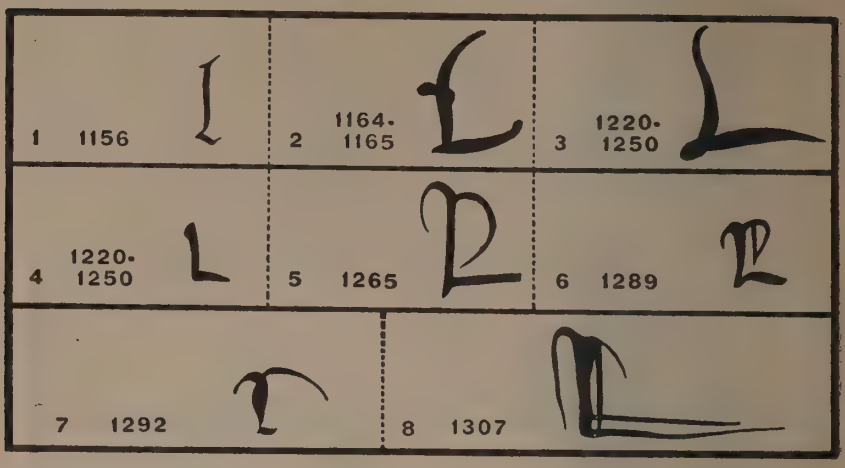
In the latter half of the century the loop is frequently replaced by a simple angular hook (No. 15).

15th Century. The last two forms continue in use, but the writing of both of them becomes more careless and the loop tends to lose its triangular character (Nos. 16–18).

L

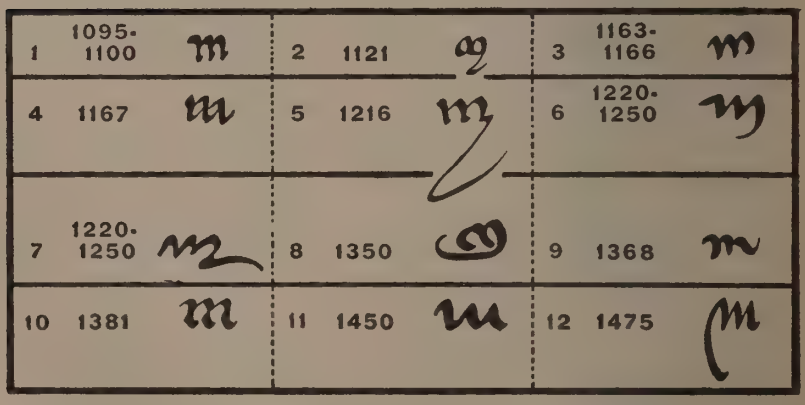
The general shape of this letter shows little change throughout the period—a more or less straight down-stroke with a second line almost or quite at right angles to it at the foot. The down-stroke usually reproduces the contemporary fashions of notched, forked, beaked, or bowed heads; but does not as a rule show the duplication common at one period in the vertical lines of *C*, *E*, and *O* (note, however, Nos. 7 and 8, with the curious two loops bent in

opposite directions): the horizontal line is generally curved upwards at the end (but note again No. 8).



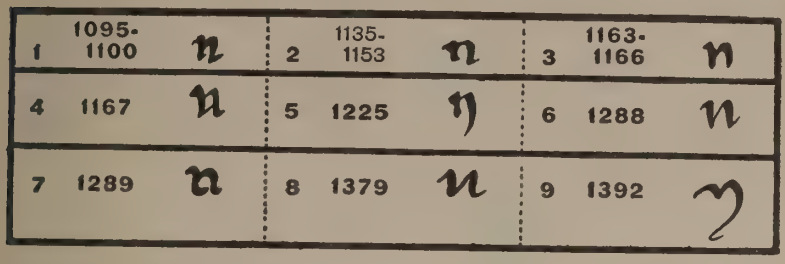
Throughout the period, and particularly in the latter part, the form used as a capital is often indistinguishable from the small letter (cf. *London* in the margin of Plate XLIV).

m *and* n



11*th and* 12*th Centuries.* *M* and *n* have practically the same history. They are made up of short down-strokes commonly called minims. In the earlier forms these minims are made separately and joined at the top, the final minim usually showing a greater tendency to curvature (*m* No. 3, *n* No. 2). *u* is a similar letter with the

minims joined at the bottom. In some of the more ornamental hands the last minim of final *m* or *n* is often provided with a tail; and where *m* is initial or separated from the letters which accompany it, it sometimes assumes the rounded semi-uncial form (No. 2). In cursive hands of the 12th century begins to appear that carelessness by which minims are no longer separately written,



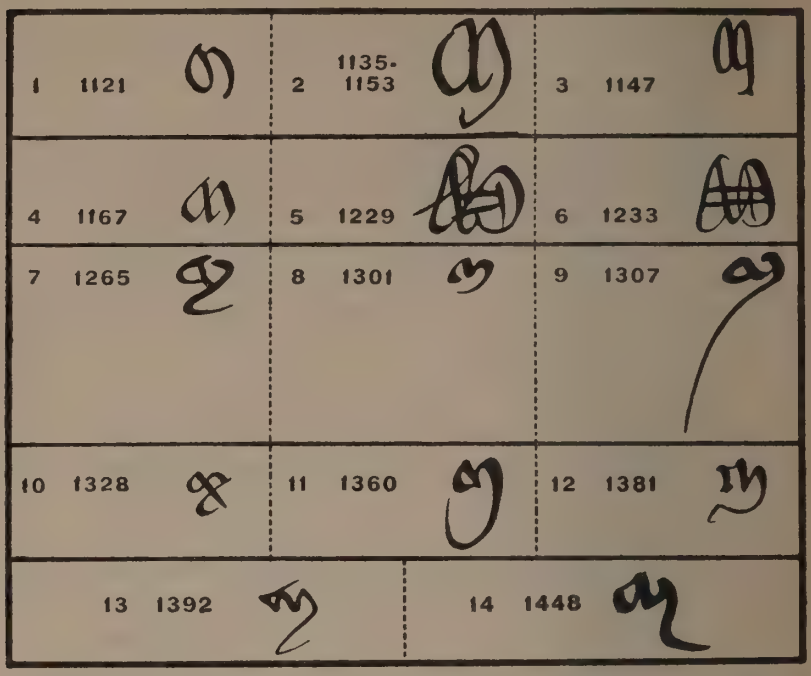
the foot of one being joined by a diagonal stroke to the head of the next (cf. Plate VII c); *m* and *n* thus become undistinguishable from *u* or undotted *i*.

13th, 14th and 15th Centuries. Distinct *m* and *n* become increasingly unusual throughout this period (contrast *n* Nos. 7 and 8), the curved initial *m* being used principally as a semi-capital (No. 8). The characteristic style of the hand employed does however show itself, e.g. the wedge-shaped down-strokes of the early 14th century and the angular up and down writing of the latter 14th and 15th centuries.

M

This capital is constant to a single type—in which particular it differs from *N*—but shows widely varying degrees of elaboration. The first form closely follows the old uncial: note the curvature of the first as well as of the last stroke. This form is apparently made in three actions of the pen. This simple *M* is found more or less throughout the period, though the whole letter is often so very small (cf. Nos. 7–14), that only the curved and lengthened final stroke shows it to be intended for anything more than *m*. Compare the remarks in our previous section on the semi-capital *m* No. 8. Curiously elaborate forms are seen in Nos. 5 and 6, appearing (particularly in No. 6), to be made up of *A* and *H* of the period conjoined by two horizontal lines. The remaining examples, besides the peculiarities already noticed in them, show little more than the variety of ways

of looping or prolonging the final (and in No. 10 the middle) stroke. Its turn to the right instead of to the left is to be noted, though

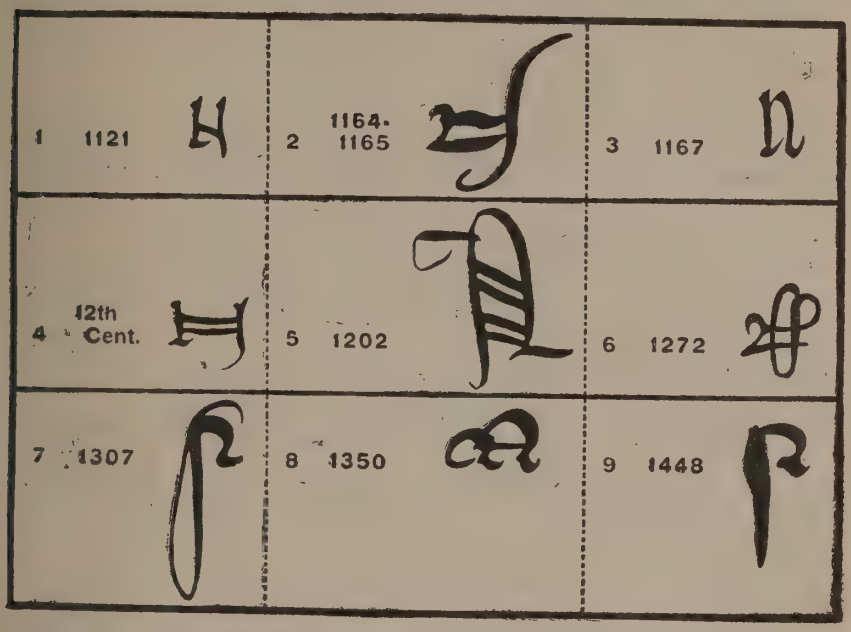


this peculiarity occurs in too many separate periods to be reckoned distinctive. But the thirteenth- and early fourteenth-century tendency in current hands to incline the middle stroke into a diagonal instead of a vertical position (Nos. 9 and 10) should also be noticed.

N

This capital is interesting as showing two distinct types which continue to exist side by side for a rather longer time than usual. The first (the Roman) consists of two parallel down-strokes joined together by a diagonal line running from near the head of the left-hand stroke to the foot of the right (No. 1): this joining-stroke soon becomes horizontal and is often duplicated (Nos. 2 and 4), sometimes by a lengthening of the foot of the first stroke (No. 2); and the second upright stroke is frequently elongated below the line and has its head notched, bowed, or forked according to the fashion of the time (No. 4); the first upright is also modified in a similar way on occasion. The other type (No. 3) is an enlargement of *n*, in which the diagonal joining-stroke is made in

the reverse way—i.e. from some way down the first to the head of the second down-stroke. This diagonal cross-stroke is never much more than a shoulder, and soon becomes a mere rounded joining of the two principal strokes, producing sometimes a quite simple form which may be made without lifting the pen : in very current



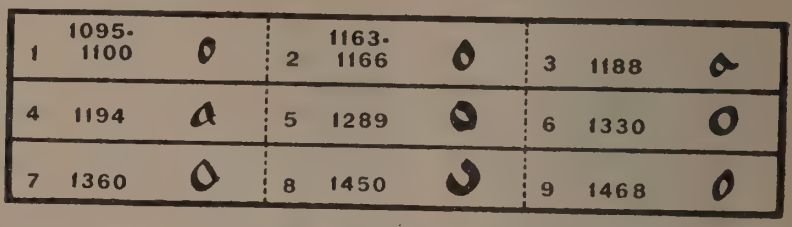
hands, when the first stroke of it is produced below the line and looped, this is liable to confusion with a carelessly made *f*, the contemporary form of which very common letter probably influenced this type. An ornate form of the second type of *N* is seen in No. 5, where the addition of cross-bars, characteristic of the time, has made the letter look almost as if it belonged to the other type.

An early ligature of *N* and *T* will be found on p. 71 below.

O

11th, 12th, and 13th Centuries. The formation of this letter varies rather with the care of the scribe than with the date of the hand. It is usually of the oblique or 'tilted' type, which is easier to write, and is formed in two parts, the lower being written first and the upper added to it. The lower part is usually a curve of gradually decreasing thickness. The upper may either be a similar curve (No. 1) or an angle (No. 2). In the latter and more usual case the letter has a more or less sharply pointed top, the interior form becoming triangular (No. 4). In some cases, especially in cursive

hands, the down-stroke of the upper portion is emphasized and may even serve as a tie, the stroke itself being sufficiently straight to cause some risk of confusion with headless *a* (Nos. 3 and 4). It is especially difficult to limit any of these forms as to date; but the degree of angularity varies with the general characteristics of the particular hands.



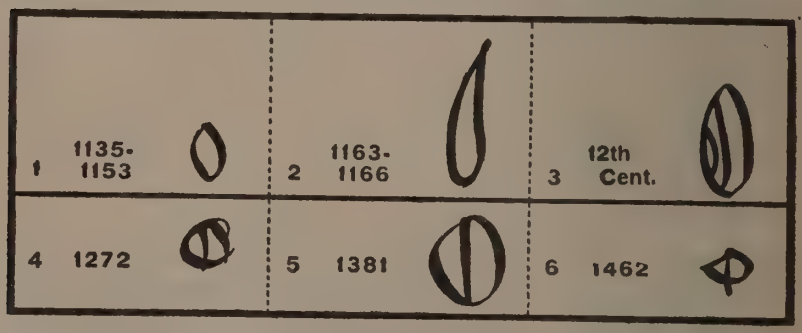
14th Century. The general roundness of the hands of this date is reflected in the broader *o*s (Nos. 6 and 7), but the method of construction remains the same.

15th Century. In this period *o* is on the whole narrower and more angular, often becoming absolutely diamond-shaped (No. 9).

In the cursive hands throughout our period *o* tends to be written without raising the pen (Nos. 4 and 8), the letter being closed as in the modern written *o* by the formation of a slight loop, thus causing some confusion with *e* and *c*: cf. illustration No. 7 of *c*.

O

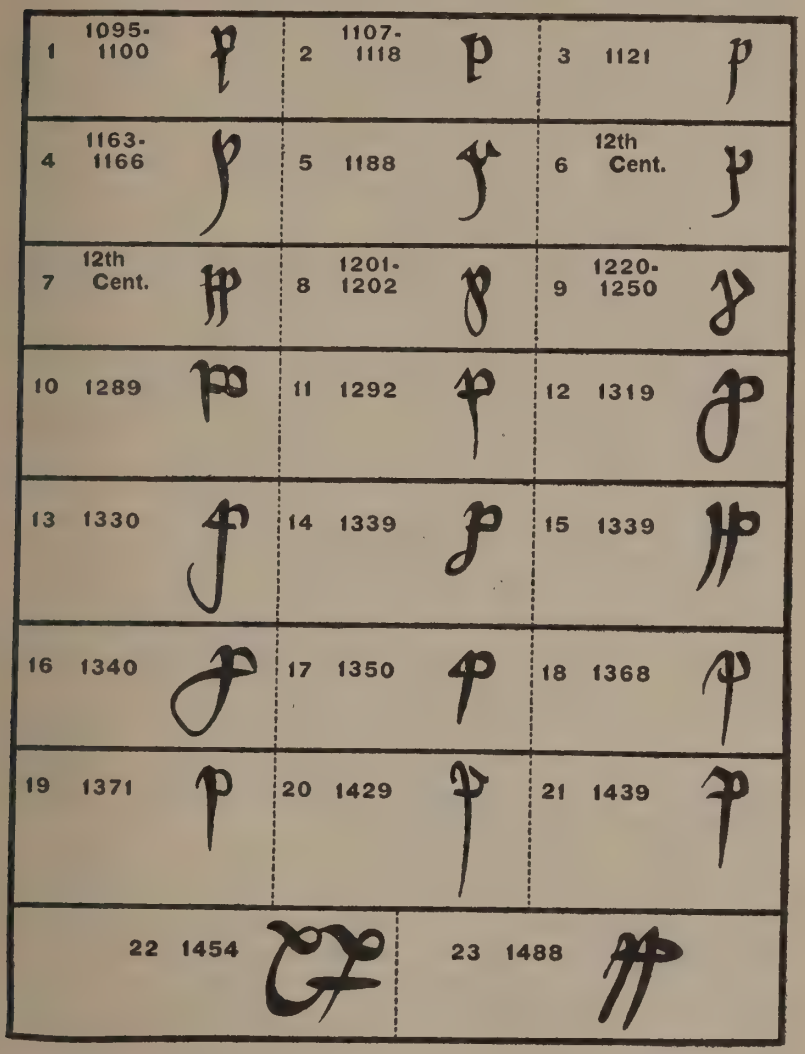
There is little to be said of this letter save that it may appear in a more rounded or more angular form according to the peculiarities



of the period or scribe; and again, that it may be with or without vertical (and occasionally horizontal) lines through it. With the line in question it is liable to be confused with *C* and *E*, particularly *C* (No. 4). The vertical line passing beyond the circumference of the letter in No. 6 is noteworthy: this also is a characteristic of *C* and *G*.

p

11*th and* 12*th Centuries.* *p* is usually made in three strokes; the stem with a 'slanted pen', the head triangular and with



a finishing curve to the left, the lower part of the loop made as a cross to the stem, and the upper part as a more or less angular curve, not always joined on to the stem (No. 1). A form made in two strokes is also used, where all sign of the cross-stroke may disappear (No. 4). The head of the stem is sometimes notched

(No. 6), and an angular foot is sometimes substituted for the finishing curve (Nos. 1 and 2). A curious form is also found in which the loop is replaced by a diagonal up-stroke finished off with a sharp turn to the right, somewhat resembling the shoulder of an *r* (No. 5). Towards the end of the period the loop is often formed by a single curved stroke, the top of the letter being left open (No. 6).

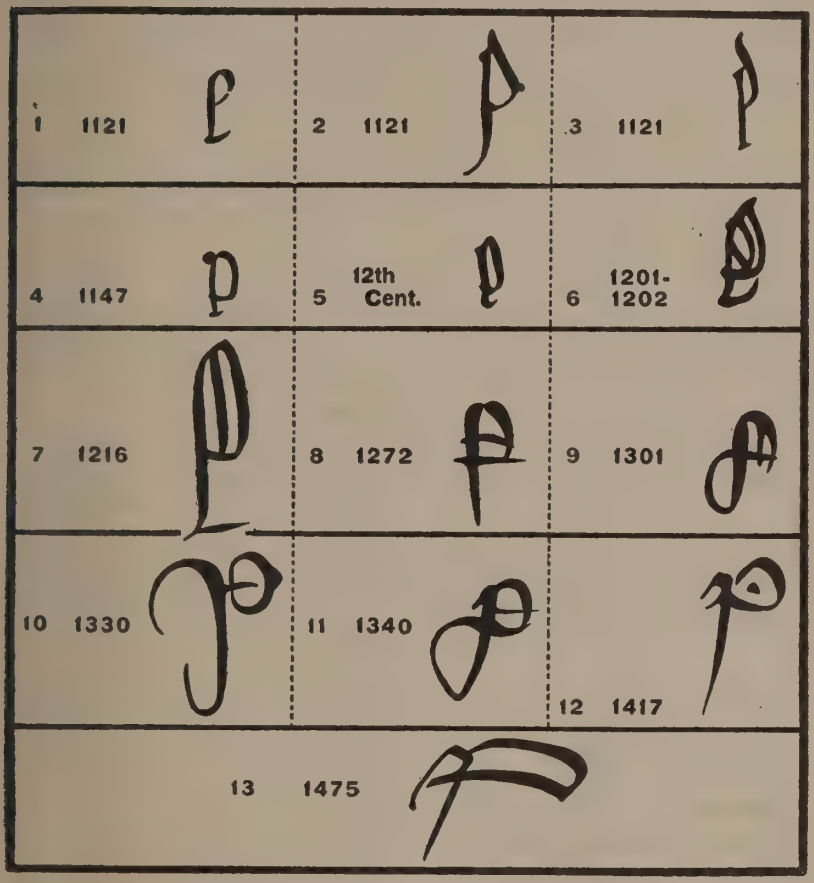
13*th Century.* The normal type of *p* is substantially the same as in the previous century, but the stem is usually straight, and towards the end of the period wedge-shaped and tapering to a point (No. 10). Cursive forms occur, especially in the earlier part of the century, in which the stem is continued to form a loop which is produced to form either the upper or the lower part of the bow of the *p* (Nos. 8 and 9). With another *p*, or a round letter like *o*, a ligature is usually formed, the back of the *p* being omitted (No. 10: cf. No. 7); the same tendency will be noticed in *b* and *d*.

14*th Century.* The prevailing type of *p* is still that first described, made in three strokes, with some admixture in the earlier half of the century of a form in which the tail is looped up to form the cross-stroke (Nos. 12 and 16). The letter may also, as in the previous century, be formed in two pieces, the cross-stroke and the bow being combined and the top frequently left open (cf. Plate XXIV A, l. 13). Towards the end of the period the cross-stroke in the three-piece form is frequently much curved, producing somewhat the effect of a *j* and an *o* interlaced (No. 18). In cursive two-piece forms, the cross-stroke is sometimes produced into a fine loop, the reverse part of which is thickened to form the bow: an example of this from the beginning of the next century is seen in No. 20; and may be compared with the twelfth-century form (No. 5); sometimes, however, the combined bow and cross-stroke is begun from the top.

15*th Century.* The prevailing type is still the first described, but in some of the more formal hands the stem of the letter has a distinct angle at the top as well as a leading stroke (No. 21). This sloping top is occasionally separate from the stem and joined to the lower part of the bow, which is then made as in No. 20. A form derived from this, which becomes increasingly common, is written without raising the pen and, when carelessly made, closely resembles an *x*: the two letters given (No. 22) are *xp*. The two-piece letter is also found from time to time.

P

This letter is of only one type, but shows a large number of different forms, more or less parallel to those of the small *p*. It may be round or angular, narrow or broad, have its tail finished with a curve to the right or to the left, or with a horizontal dash, show a plain bow or one ornamented with a central dot, a vertical

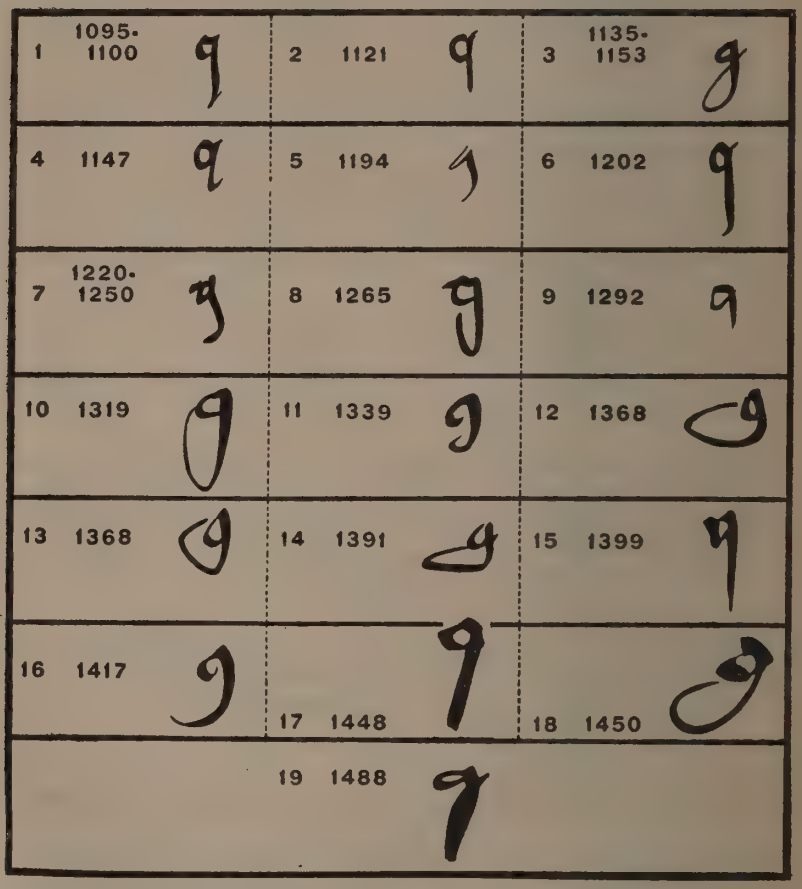


stroke or a horizontal bar—the last two peculiarities appearing to exist side by side (Nos. 6–11). The most notable examples are: No. 1, where the tail is finished at the line with a horizontal dash; No. 3, where the bow is not closed; No. 4, where the bow comes down to the line, the tail extending below; No. 5, having a narrow bow which may be compared with the typical *B* of the period; No. 8, haivng a cross-bar and the tail continued below the line; No. 9, where the base of the bow is a straight line formed in one

movement carried on from the elongated tail; and No. 12, where the bow is ornamented with a central dot and its base carried through the first stroke of the letter. No. 13 shows the one-action *p* enlarged and used as a capital.

q

11th and 12th Centuries. The earlier forms of *q* are made either by combining a bow like that of a *c* with a rectangular-headed *j*



(No. 1), or by combining an *o* with a plain down-stroke (No. 2). The tail has usually a slight curvature to the left, which increases as the period advances, producing in later examples the characteristic sinuous curvature of the end of this period. Sometimes, however, in more formal hands it is finished with a slight oblique foot (No. 11). A similar effect to that of No. 2 (the *o* and *j* form) is

produced in some of the more cursive hands by beginning from the right hand, forming the bow with a light up-stroke, and continuing the down-stroke from the point thus reached (No. 5). The tail is also sometimes formed into a loop and used as a tie to the next letter (No. 3).

13th Century. The usual types in this period are either like No. 1 above or like No. 5. Sometimes, however, when the down-stroke is made by continuation from the end of the bow, as in No. 5, an oblique top-stroke is added (No. 7). In later examples of the No. 1 type the rectangular top of the *j* is less marked, producing the effect of a rounded head to the letter; simultaneously, the down-stroke becomes distinctly wedge-shaped (No. 9).

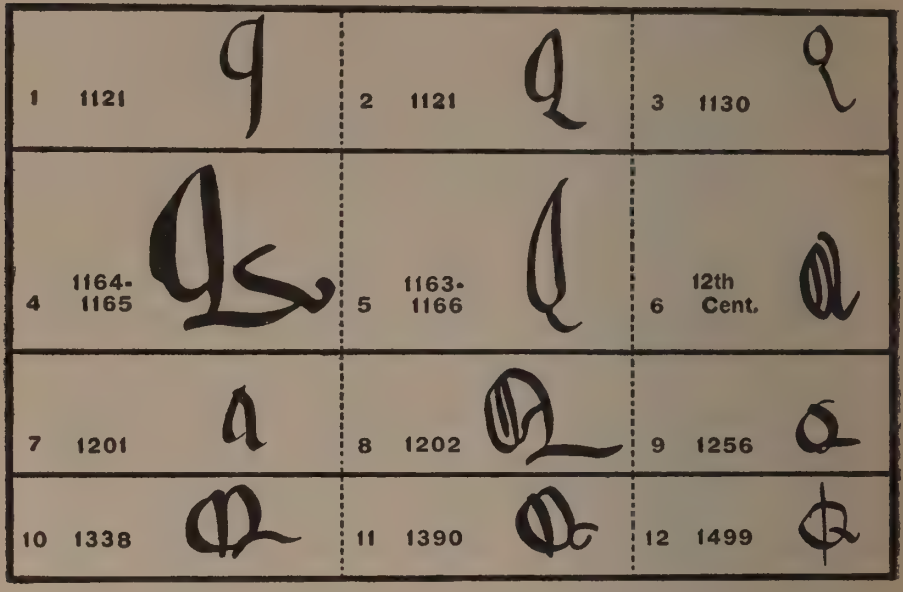
14th Century. The construction of the letter remains the same in the 14th century, the combination of an *o* or *c* bow with a plain or headed *j*; but in many cases (Nos. 12–14) the upper part of the bow is formed with the lower part and not with the stem, the latter retaining its characteristic *j* shape. Quite early in the century the stem becomes more curved and ends with a rounded tail, which may even become a loop (No. 10); in the latter half of the period this curved tail has often an angle at the lowest point (No. 13). The bow of the letter also becomes more angular, especially in the more formal examples, which look like one limb or 'minim' of an *m* or *n* conjoined with a headed *j* (No. 15). Formal examples at the end of the period often have in addition a crook at the top of the down-stroke similar to that in one of the later forms of *p*, giving the letter the familiar 'Old English' appearance (cf. Plate XXX, A). A single-action form also appears in highly current hands throughout the century (No. 11).

15th Century. The 'Old English' type occurs throughout the period, especially in the more formal hands. In less stiff writings, the type with a curved tail is most used. In some cases again, the letter seems to be written without raising the pen (as in the previous century), either by beginning with the thick stroke of the bow and bringing the pen up to the top of the down-stroke, where it forms a sharp turn (No. 18), or by beginning at the bottom of the bow and making an angle at the top part of it. In a better hand near the end of the period, *q* is formed almost as in modern writing (No. 19).

Q

There appear at first sight to be three types of this letter. The first is an enlargement of the small letter—a very rare kind (No. 1). The other two are like an Arabic 2 (No. 2) and an *O* with

an added stroke at the foot like a modern *Q* (No. 5): probably, however, the latter is only a development of the Arabic 2 form: Interesting simplified forms of this type occur (Nos. 7 and 9);

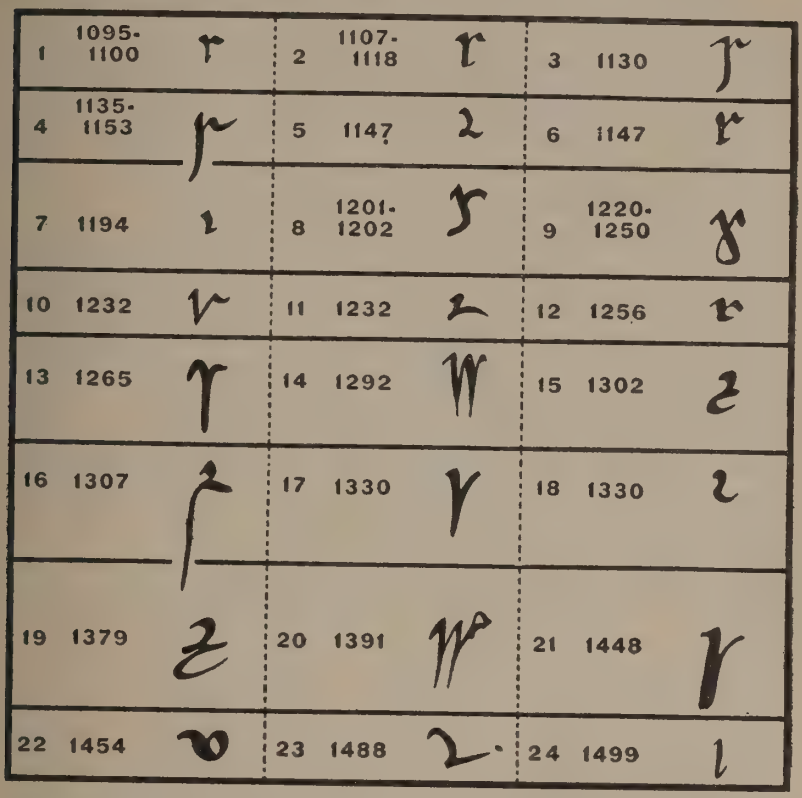


another is so far simplified as to be made without lifting the pen, the circle being begun from the bottom of the right-hand side, and carried round and produced horizontally to the right to form the characteristic tail. In other respects the letter follows the development of O (Nos. 6, 9, 11, and 12).

r ɾ

11th and 12th Centuries. Throughout the history of this letter two forms are in continuous use, the ordinary minuscule *r* and the form derived from the ligature of *OR*, which is at first only used after *o*. In the 11th and 12th centuries the capital *R* is still frequently found in the middle of a word where one of the other forms would have been expected. The minuscule *r* has two leading forms. The first, usually employed in Anglo-Saxon writing, and surviving in the Irish printed form of the present day, has its stem extending below the line; the shoulder springs from near the top of the stem and is very deep, coming almost down to the line. This is well shown in Plate I, c. The other, used in writing Latin, has a very much less-marked shoulder. The stem often does not go below the line but ends in a slight foot (Nos. 1

and 2). In the 12th century it is frequently produced below the line and finished by a slight curve to the left, thus bringing the letter into the general type of the writing of the period (Nos. 3 and 4). The other form of the letter, used only after *o*, is more or less like an Arabic 2 (No. 5); but in rapid writing the curve of the head and the sharp angle at the base tend to be effaced, so that some late examples are reduced to a mere zig-zag line (No. 7).



13*th Century.* The development of the minuscule *r* from the types last described (Nos. 2 and 3) is mainly due to the growing tendency to write the letter without raising the pen from the parchment. This shows first in the substitution of a loop for the tail of the previous century (No. 9), and later in the lowering of the point from which the shoulder springs and the suppression of the shoulder itself (Nos. 10 and 13: cf. the double *r* in No. 14). The other form is now frequently used after more or less rounded letters such as *p* and *b*, as well as after *o*, and is less carefully written (No. 11); the angle at the base often touching the previous letter, while the head is sometimes a mere hook.

14th Century. Of the first kind of *r* the type just described (Nos. 10 and 13) persists throughout the period, the shoulder being as a rule completely absent, except at the end of a word. The second or round *r* is likewise of the last-described type (No. 11). Both tend to become slightly more angular in the latter part of the century. The round *r* is frequently adorned at the same time by the addition of a *cedilla*, or tail to the bend at the base: this may either be a prolongation of the stem, the base being added subsequently, or the *r* may be made in one piece and the tail added (Nos. 16 and 19): in careless writing the tail may even be found attached to the letter which the *r* follows. There is now no uniformity in the use of this *r*; which may follow any bowed letter, but does not invariably follow even *o*. The tailed *r* must be carefully distinguished from the contemporary 3.

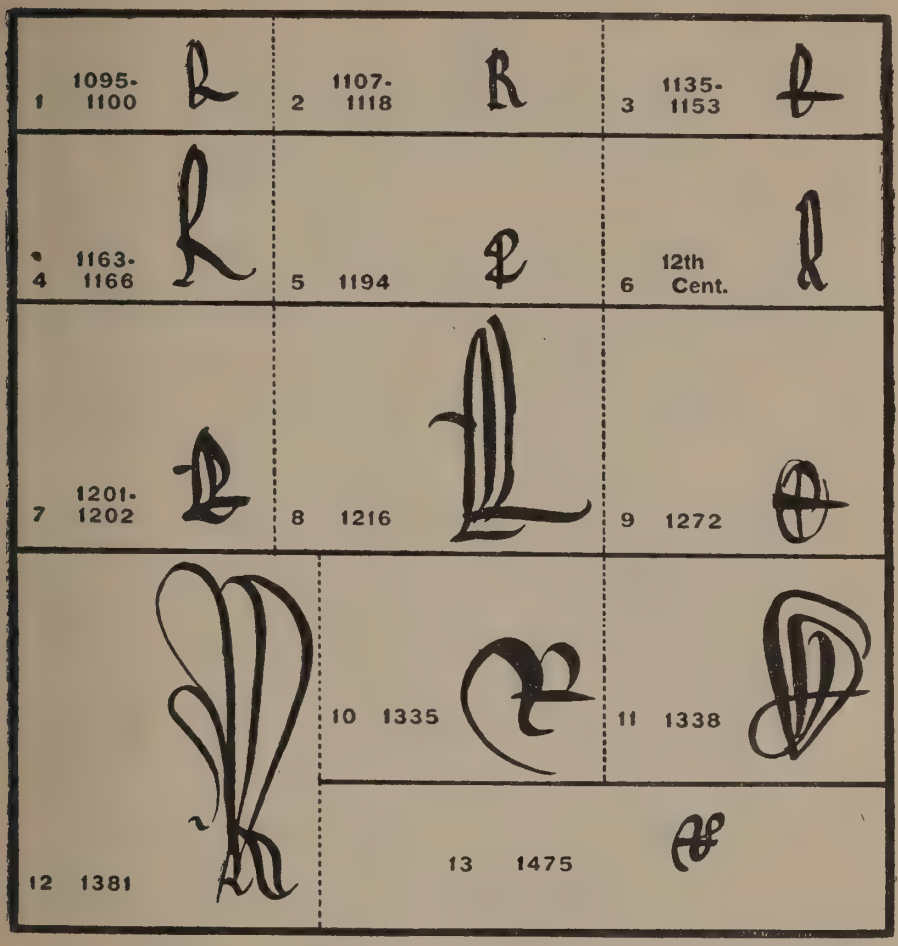
15th Century. The two forms prevailing in the last century persist. The tailed form of the round *r*, resembling a French 7 (No. 19), being perhaps a little less common. This rounded or zig-zag form, with or without the tail, is used freely in cursive hands after all sorts of letters; and in some hands of this class the long *r* (now a mere fork) disappears altogether, being replaced either by the zig-zag form or by a short *r* with a foot on the line, the shoulder of which is formed by a thick stroke, either separate or continued from the base of the down-stroke as in No. 22.

Note. Superior *r* is either a round *r* or is developed into a curved line: it is treated below under *Special Signs*.

R

There is only one type of *R*, but we have examples of a very great variety of forms, some of them—in particular the more cursive ones—very curious. The first example displays the one tendency which appears in almost every form—that towards keeping the final stroke in an almost horizontal position: the same tendency, very striking in its difference from the modern form of the letter, is seen in *K* and *k*. In No. 2, a very simple Roman form, this tendency does not appear. No. 3 shows this horizontal line carried right through the principal down-stroke of the letter, and Nos. 4 and 5 the result when the same is done by a writer who carries on this stroke from the bow above. No. 3 is also an instance of a very common tendency in *R*, which, again, it shares with *K*, that towards an exaggerated upward dash from the foot of the down-

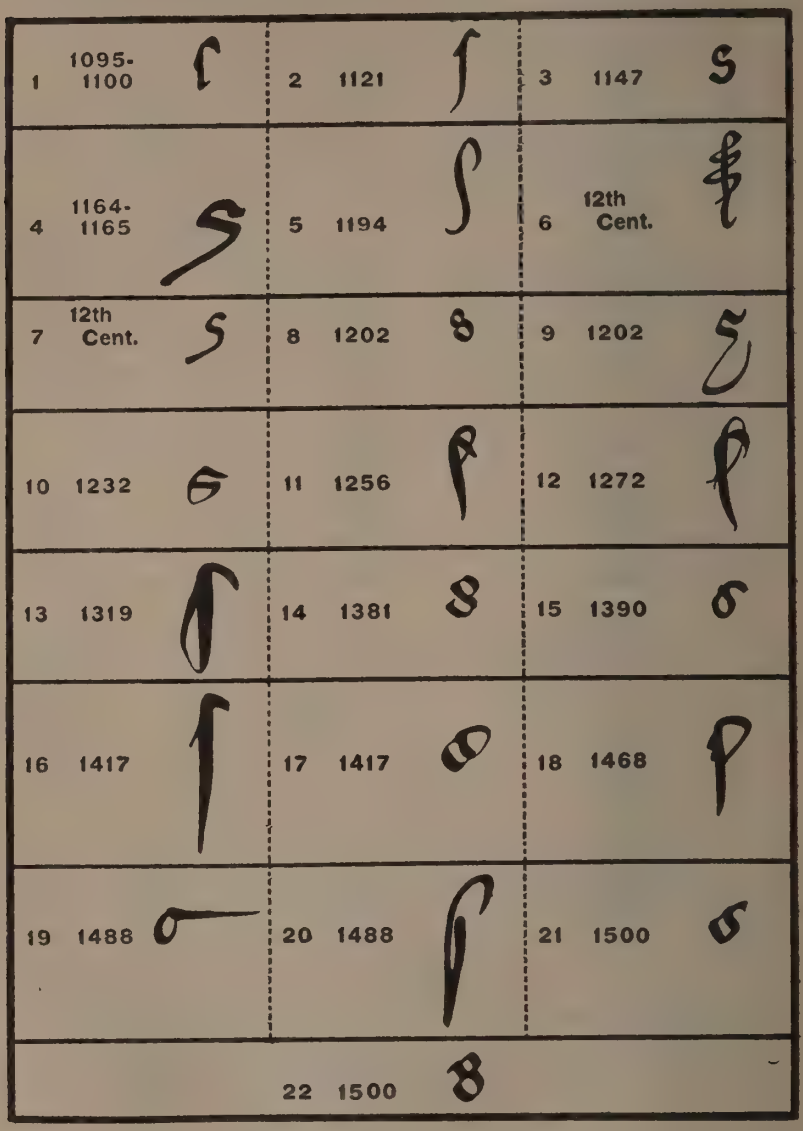
stroke; some such finish as this is very usual. Nos. 7 and 8 show the duplication of the principal down-stroke, which, however, extends only as far as the bottom of the bow: while in No. 9 the production of the preliminary dash at the head of the first stroke into a long round tail makes the letter, with its markedly horizontal



final stroke, very like an *E*. The quite simple and clear form from which this last is evolved is seen in the next figure. No. 11 is a very elaborate but very current form, apparently made with two actions of the pen. No. 13 is even more current but much simpler—the simplest form indeed which the letter could assume.

ſ s

11th and 12th Centuries. The earliest form of *s* in these examples is the ordinary minuscule type, formed by a straight down-stroke



coming very slightly below the line and ending with an oblique foot; the head is formed by a separate curved stroke, and the join of the two in the upper half of the down-stroke forms the little

triangular 'serif' found in the printed long *s* (No. 1). This letter is used in all positions in the word; and it remains in use throughout the period, with some modifications. In the 12th century, the down-stroke tends to come below the line and to turn to the left, and the 'serif' is often added separately. The sinuous form of this letter is characteristic of the 12th century and the beginning of the 13th (No. 2): this is sometimes written without the 'serif' (No. 5). The other, or 'short' *s*, based on the capital, appears as a final about the middle of the 12th century: it does not, however, oust the other form, but co-exists with it. Our earliest example is like a capital S on a reduced scale (No. 3), but towards the end of the century it is much more freely written, ending with an almost straight oblique tail (No. 4).

13th Century. During this period the long *s* of the preceding century (type No. 2) gradually loses its sinuous character and tends to have a loop, as well as the added head, for convenience of joining on to preceding letters (Nos. 11 and 12). Only at the end of the century does it begin to be formed in a single stroke. The short *s*, used at first only as a final letter, becomes shorter and more compact (No. 8). It is sometimes made so that the top is formed by producing the tail as in the Greek *sigma* (No. 10), and about the middle of the century may be found in any position, initial, medial, or final; sometimes almost to the exclusion of the other form. At the end of the century it has almost entirely ceased to be found as a medial, and the long *s* has ceased to be final. An interesting decorated form of long *s* will be found in Plate IX, B. The tendency (seen in this Plate) to lower the serif almost to the line should be carefully noted, as it sometimes causes a confusion with *f*.

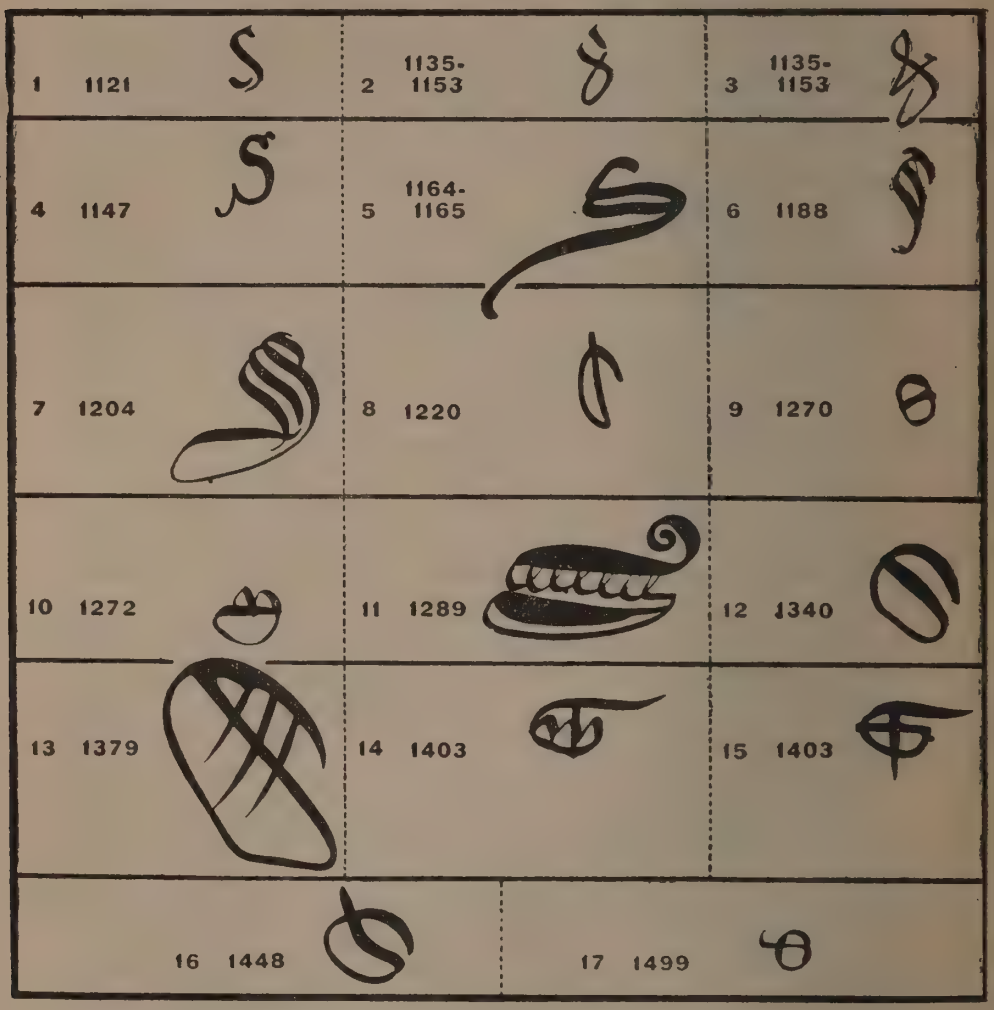
14th Century. The forms of the previous century persist, the long *s* for the most part having lost its loop and now having a wedge-shaped down-stroke: the tail is frequently brought up as in the contemporary *f* (No. 13). The *sigma* form is also common (No. 15). Towards the end of the period both varieties show increasing coarseness of form and angularity (No. 14).

15th Century. In current hands the long *s* is often formed by bringing the pen down and up again, forming either a wedge-shaped stem or a double stem (No. 20). The short *s* is often remarkable for its angular form, being practically diamond-shaped, with a finishing curve (No. 21): in formal hands, where the old (non-sigma) form persists, the angularity is so marked as to make the letter almost like an Arabic 8 (No. 22). Note also the current form beginning from the left, instead of the right, side of the round part.

NOTE. For the *st* ligature see under *t*.

S

There is nothing remarkable about the earliest and simplest form of this capital, which is purely Roman. Its first modification is seen in the production of its lower bow into a tail curving

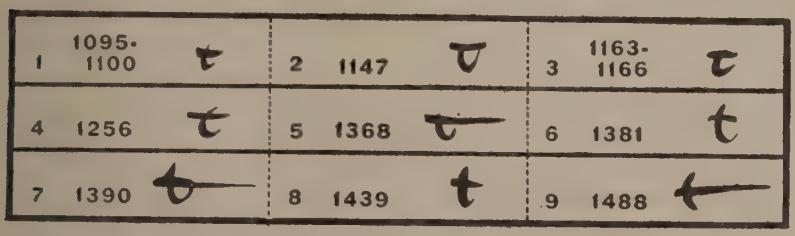


towards the upper part of the letter (No. 2). A more notable development is that seen in No. 5, where a duplication of the main stroke in the centre of the letter appears. The centre continues to enlarge into an *o* shape, while the head of the letter grows smaller and the lower bow develops a long curving tail, terminating in a thick horizontal line almost or quite touching the body of

the letter (No. 7). This form develops into the 'beaver-tailed' variety, the head of the original form disappearing entirely, while the vertical strokes in the body of the letter, becoming very prominent, make it curiously like an *M* (No. 10). This form of S did not last very long, though it occasionally recurs. No. 14 is a late modification of it. While it continued, its use was very general: but we give also an example of S, from the same period, which is little more than an enlargement of the small letter (No. 8). From the beginning of the 14th century till the end of our period, the usual form is (cf. one form of *s*) a modification of the normal S, very like a Greek *σ*, in which the lower bow is closed up into an *o* form; it is made, however, in one action of the pen, beginning from the centre of the letter (No. 12). Further modifications of this, in which the first stroke becomes horizontal instead of diagonal, are seen in Nos. 15 and 17.

t

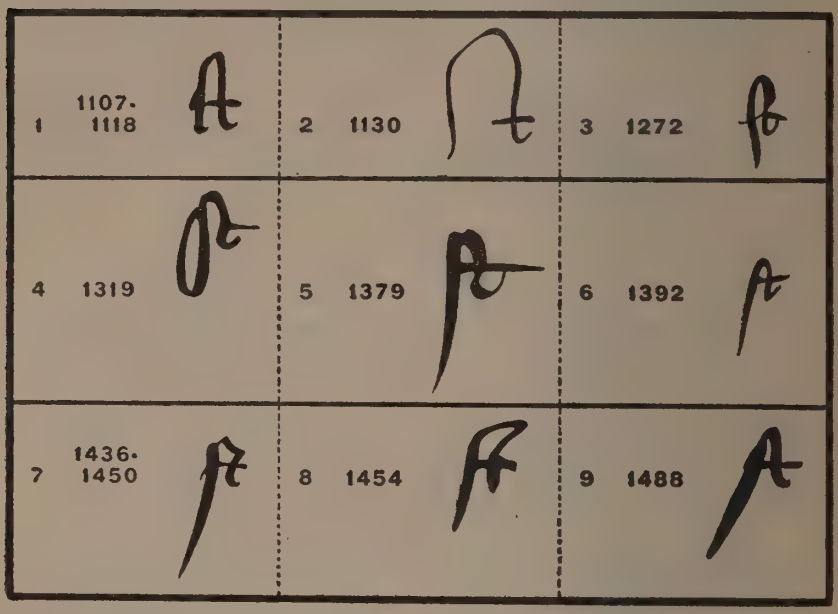
11th and 12th Centuries. The normal form of *t* during this period is of the ordinary minuscule type, the body of the letter being as a rule curved, and the stem projecting but slightly, if at all, above the cross (No. 1). In formal hands, the stem is sometimes straight. In the ligatures *ct* (above, p. 10) and *st* (Nos. 1 and 2, page 48) the stem of the *t* is produced and curved backwards to join the



preceding letter, but at the end of the 12th century *ct* ceases to be a ligature, though the *t* retains its produced stem. The two letters are clearly distinguished, as the cross of *t* is horizontal, extending behind the stem, while the head of *c* slopes obliquely downwards to the right of the stem.

13th Century. There is no material alteration in the form of *t*, but in rapid writing the cross is not always so distinctly made as to differentiate it from a carelessly written *c* (q.v.) The latter has by this time taken its place to represent the sibilant sound before *i* followed by a vowel. *t* retains the lengthened head in the ligature *st* (No. 3, page 48), but the *ct* ligature has disappeared and *t* is frequently not given any special form after *c*.

14*th Century.* In the earlier half of this period there is no material change in the writing of *t*. In the latter a certain tendency is shown to straighten the body of the letter and to bring the head of the stem well above the cross (Nos. 6 and 7: note the currency of 7). At the very end of the period *st* shows traces of ceasing to be written as a ligature, the *t* being now somewhat detached from the *s* (No. 5 below). There is still some confusion between *c* and *t*.



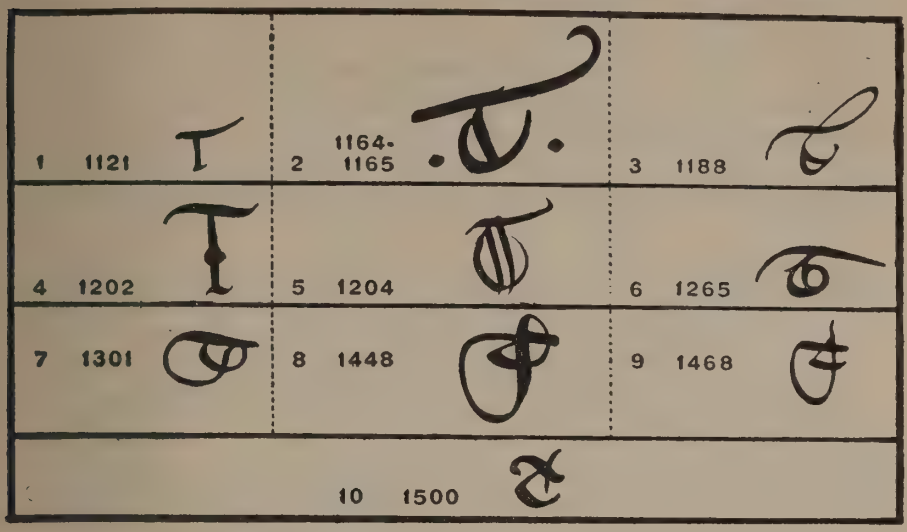
15*th Century.* The changes noted for the latter part of the preceding century continue, and the head gradually comes more and more above the cross, which is now often in the middle of the letter. The *st* ligature does not completely disappear, though it is rarer, and in rapid hands has a peculiar splayed appearance, like a pair of compasses (Nos. 6–9). See a similar remark under *ss*, p. 71).

T

Our earliest example of this letter is like an ordinary modern capital with an oblique dash at the foot of the down-stroke (Nos. 1 and 4). This, however, soon gives way to the type which is probably an enlargement of the small letter.[1] Elaborations of

[1] It may possibly be a survival of the uncial *T*: cf. the *T* in *Testibus* in Plate I B.

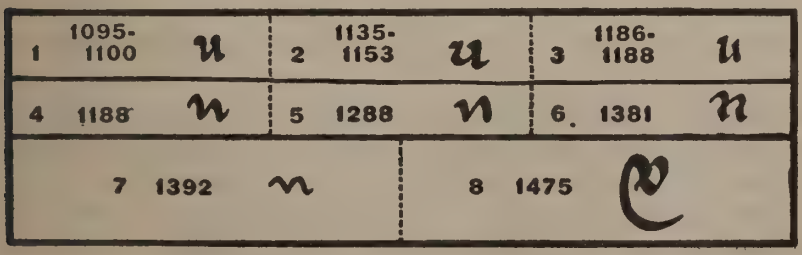
this consist in the addition of flourishes to the cross and of vertical strokes traversing the main part of the letter, the latter being parallel to similar embellishments already noticed in the cases of



C, *E*, *O*, *Q*, and, to some extent, other letters. The only other point of interest is the way in which the current forms are made, where the pen is not lifted from the parchment: varieties of this, widely distant in time, are given in Nos. 3, 7, 8, and, to some extent, 9.

U *and* V

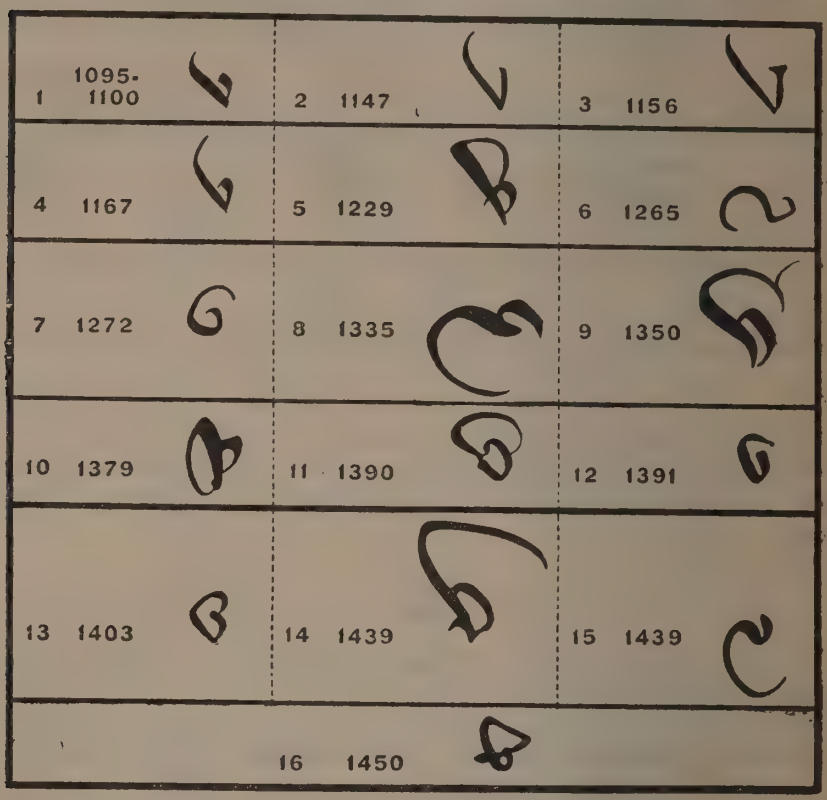
11*th and* 12*th Centuries.* During this period *u* is the prevailing form, both as an initial and as a medial. The two forms do not



imply any distinction in sound. *v* is used as a semi-capital, or rarely (in the 12th century) as an initial, and also, as a rule, in numerals. *u* has the usual minuscule form (*u* No. 1), except in

rapid writing, when it sometimes becomes almost indistinguishable from *n* (*u* No. 4). *v* has its first limb longer than its second, which is usually curved sharply inwards (*v* No. 1).

13*th Century*. There is little if any change in the form of *u*, but with the increase in the quantity and the speed of writing the second or *n* form becomes the more usual of the two. *v* becomes gradually more elaborate in construction, the first limb acquiring a large loop, while the second also curls over, so that the letter



becomes almost or quite closed (*v* No. 5). Another form has a leading curve instead of the loop (*v* No. 6). Both these forms in the latter part of the century are made without raising the pen. These changes correspond with the increasing freedom of the writing as a whole. From quite an early period *v* tends to supplant *u* as an initial, and sometimes, though comparatively rarely, appears also as a medial. Initial *u* does not, however, completely disappear.

14*th Century*. *u* is now very rarely distinguishable from *n*

Both the last two forms of *v* survive, but the loop of the first is replaced by a simple hook (*v* No. 12), while the leading curve of the second increases in size and extends below the line (*v* No. 8). Towards the end of the century the general angularity of the writing causes the angle at the base of the letter to become acute, while the second limb leans over so far that the letter is actually closed (*v* Nos. 10 and 11). The hook of No. 7 is then attached to the letter by an angular joint, producing a form which it is quite easy to confuse with *b* (*v* No. 11), from which it is only distinguished by the way in which it leans to the left. Initial *u* has practically disappeared.

15th Century. The types already described persist in the 15th century, but the extreme angularity of the base of the *v* becomes less marked towards the end of the period. A characteristic type, which has an angular joint in the first limb of the letter, whether it has a hook or a leading curve, is seen first in the previous century (*v* No. 11) but becomes particularly common in this: cf. the initial *u* in *u* No. 8. *u* is written as before and is only medial, the distinction of sound not being yet elaborated. In English, medial *u* is frequently replaced by *w*.

U V

The few capital uses of this letter are merely enlargements of the small *v* form, and are therefore incorporated in the plate of small *v* s.

w and W

This letter—the same throughout in the small as in the large form—begins by being no more than two *v* s conjoined (Nos. 1 and 2): the character of the letter changes according as its component parts are the stiffest kind of *V* or the more ornamental *v* s seen, e.g., in Nos. 3 and 4, and the number of strokes employed in making it varies. Presently, however, we get letters (e.g. Nos. 7 and 8) which, while preserving the general appearance of the most ornate of the preceding examples, give no suggestion of being compounded of two *v* s; and after this comes a form (No. 9)

made, apparently, without lifting the pen. Other developments need not be particularly described here, and it is interesting to note

how the simplest form reappears at the end of our time. The curious cursive form in No. 14 is also interesting.

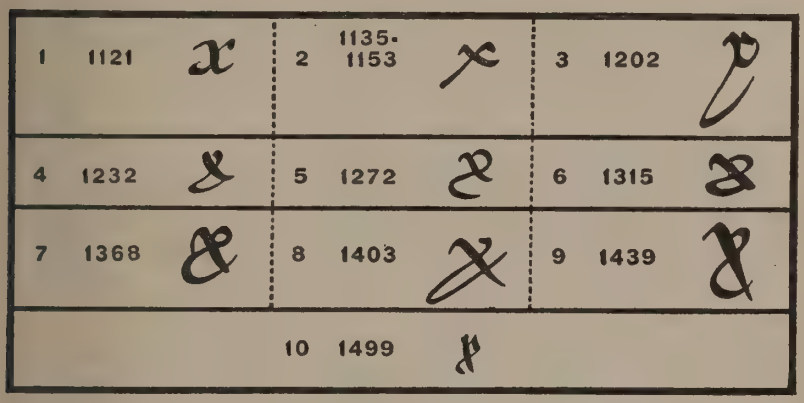
x

The type of this letter is always the same; that is to say, that it is made always in the Roman manner of two diagonal strokes crossed, never of two bows or *c* s addorsed. It occurs very commonly in Records of our period, owing to their exclusive use of the Roman forms of numerals.

11th and 12th Centuries. In our first example, the common tendency of both cross-strokes to curve outwards a little, particularly at the foot, is already visible: but the letter does not extend below the line. Soon, however, the second stroke (the up-stroke from left to right) begins to be so extended (No. 2): it has also an

added head, giving the letter something of a curved appearance at the top as well as at the foot. In No. 3 a further development of the extended stroke is seen in an angular turn back to the right: the head of both strokes is also more marked.

13*th Century.* One point to be noticed in this century is the further development of the tail or extension of the second diagonal, which now curves right back, sometimes even intersecting the other stroke (No. 4); this second diagonal may even be made by an extension round and upwards of the lower end of the first. A point even more important is the permanent change in the head of the second diagonal, which becomes a normal down-



stroke and curves inwards instead of outwards (Nos. 4 and 5); so that sometimes, besides crossing the first in the centre, the second also curves right back to meet it both at the head and foot: the letter then becomes a pair of almost round marks placed vertically and separated by a thick diagonal line (No. 6: though this is of the next century).

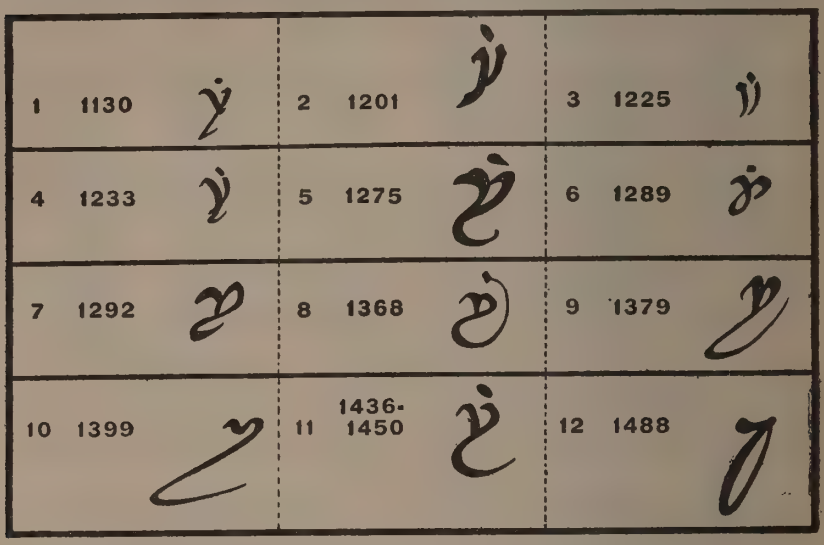
14*th Century.* The examples in this century show little more than slight modifications of the forms seen in the last.

15*th Century.* Note at the end of the last and the beginning of this century the further extension of the tail of the second stroke into a bow, which sometimes not merely touches but recrosses the foot of the first diagonal (Nos. 7, 8, and 9). Apart from such recrossing, this form of *x* is rather liable to confusion with the contemporary *g* (q.v.). We give from the last part of the period an example of the very angular form of the letter then in use in the more careful hands (No. 10). About the same time we get the highly current form of *x*, made in one action and very liable to confusion with *þ* (see *þ*, No. 22).

y

11th and 12th Centuries. This letter, the use of which is not common at the beginning of our period, starts by being no more than two *i*s, one short and one long, placed diagonally so as to meet at the foot: our example (No. 1) has one dot, a principle generally, though not always, followed throughout.

13th Century. We give two examples (Nos. 2 and 3) from the first half of the century which still show distinctly the *ij* derivation:



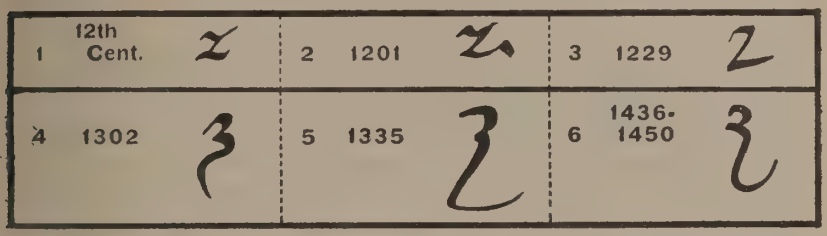
it will be noticed that the join is effected rather by a curve of the longer half to the left, than by diagonal placing of both parts. This method of formation—i. e. the modification of the second half of the letter, and particularly of its tail or extension below the line (which is now curved sharply to the left and generally back again to the right)—is well seen in No. 5; and culminates in a form which shows little trace of its origin (No. 7). No. 6 is a very curious current form of the letter, in which almost all trace of the two-stroke form is lost: this method of formation, however, does not, probably, persist or recur.

14th Century. The chief feature of this century (foreshadowed in the last) is the junction of the two down-strokes at the head by the leading curve of the second stroke, which is generally begun from the foot of the first (Nos. 8 and 9): this culminates in a current form, from the end of the period, made like an *n* with a much lengthened final stroke (No. 10).

15th Century. In this period the letter returns to a simpler form (No. 11); till, at the end, we get a debased current form in which the first down-stroke has almost disappeared, becoming merged in a nearly horizontal line like the head of an Arabic 7 (No. 12).

z Z

This letter is naturally not common. During the 11th and 12th centuries it takes—both as a capital and as a small letter—the Roman form, two horizontal lines joined by a diagonal (Nos. 1, 2, and 3).



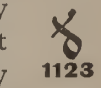
From the latter part of the 13th century on, while the capital (rarely used) retains the Roman form, the small letter has its lower horizontal stroke produced below the line in a curve to the left, and, generally, a finishing recurve to the right. We give three examples from the 13th and early 14th centuries: but the form of this letter is the same as that used for the *-us* or *-et* abbreviation mark, and as the latter mark is far commoner than *z* proper the shape may better be studied under *Abbreviations* (p. 61).

RUNES

The documents from which our examples are taken being written for the most part in Latin or French, the proportion of these letters, which are frequent in vernacular documents, is very low.

đ

This letter, representing the soft sound of *th*, only differs from *d* in having a stroke through the head. It is not usually found after the 12th century,[1] except in copies of ancient documents,[2] when it is not properly a Rune but only a modified Roman *d*, differing very slightly, if at all, from the contemporary *d* with an abbreviation mark through it.

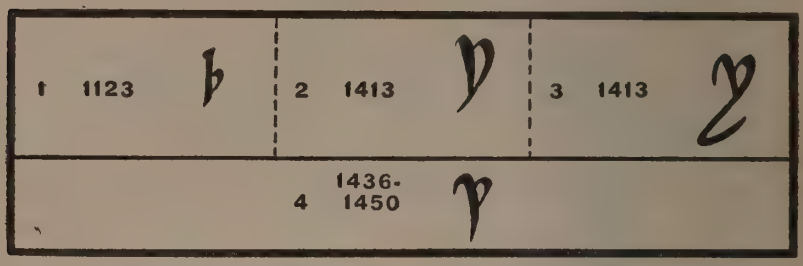


[1] A case occurs as late as A.D. 1220, in a place-name, in *Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum*, I. 423; but it is unusual in the Close Rolls of this period, though probably still in use in documents written in English.

[2] e.g. contracted *d* No. 1, p. 68.

þ

Thorn, the hard *th*, is found in vernacular documents throughout our period, and survived until the sixteenth century, when it



became indistinguishable in form from *y*. In the eleventh and twelfth centuries it resembles a *þ* with a long head (No. 1). Later it is very similar to *y* but has no dot or accent, and usually, but not always, a straight tail (Nos. 2 and 4). In quite late hands, in such words as *the* or *that*, an ordinary *y* is written (No. 3).

ƿ

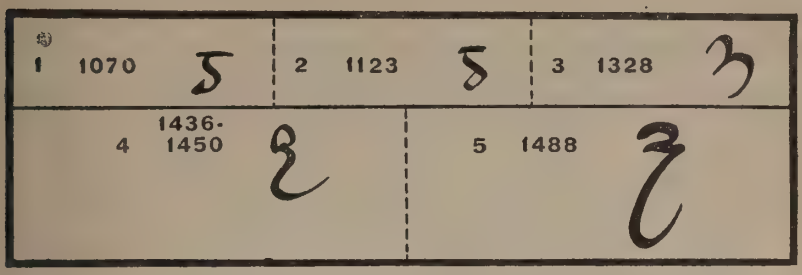
Wen, the Saxon *w*, like *ð* disappears after the 12th century, except in copies of old documents. We have, however, an instance of the 12th century in which it appears in a Latin document, *w* not having as yet replaced it (No. 3). Its early form is scarcely distinguishable from the fourteenth-century form of Thorn

(No. 1); and when used as a capital is merely enlarged (No. 2). Our twelfth-century example is dotted. In the 15th century it is completely confused by the copyists either with Thorn or with *y*.

ȝ

We may for convenience class with the Runes the letter which resulted from the separate development in vernacular writing of the Anglo-Saxon *g*. This form was used from the 12th to the 15th century, to express a sound intermediate between *g* and *y*, which gave rise to such double forms of the same word as *yett* and *gate*,

and is represented in printed Scots by a *z*, which it in no way resembles in sound—e.g. in the name Dalziel. A similar mistake



occurs in English: it will be seen that our examples (Nos. 3, 4, and 5) from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries are quite indistinguishable from the contemporary *z*; and a mistaken reading of these is also frequently perpetrated in print.

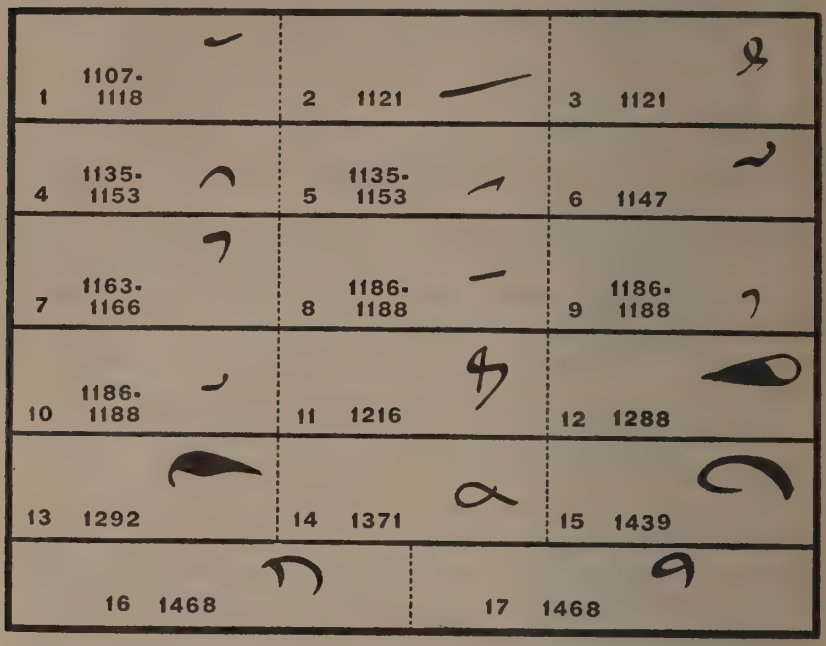
HISTORY OF ABBREVIATIONS

NOTE. Of the various forms of abbreviation mentioned previously[1] we have not thought it necessary to illustrate here the *superior letters* (which can better be considered in their respective places under *a*, *e*, &c.) with the exception of *r*, which more often than not takes the form of a *special sign* and is dealt with accordingly. A note on the differentiation in the matter of signs between *suspended* and *contracted* words will be found below under COMMONLY USED . . . ABBREVIATIONS OF SINGLE OR FINAL LETTERS.

The ordinary sign for abbreviations, other than those expressed by special and particular marks, varies very much, particularly in the period before the last years of the 13th century. Exceptional varieties are seen in Nos. 3, 11, and 12; but for the most part the sign is made from left to right more or less horizontally. Even so, however, it knows many forms: it may be a straight line, a convex curve, a straight line with its left extremity turned down or its right turned up, or combining both these characteristics. The last (cf. No. 14) is, ultimately, the form most often used, and is the convention adopted by modern usage: but even this, as may be seen from the last three examples given, is not invariable within

[1] See above, p. xxii, the general note upon METHODS OF ABBREVIATION.

the limits of our period. The only form to which anything like a limiting date can be given is that of a very heavy, thick stroke (No. 13: cf. No. 12); this thickness, seen also in some contemporary letters, is peculiar to the latter half of the 13th century (*see especially* Plates XVIII B, XX A). It is to be noticed that the simple

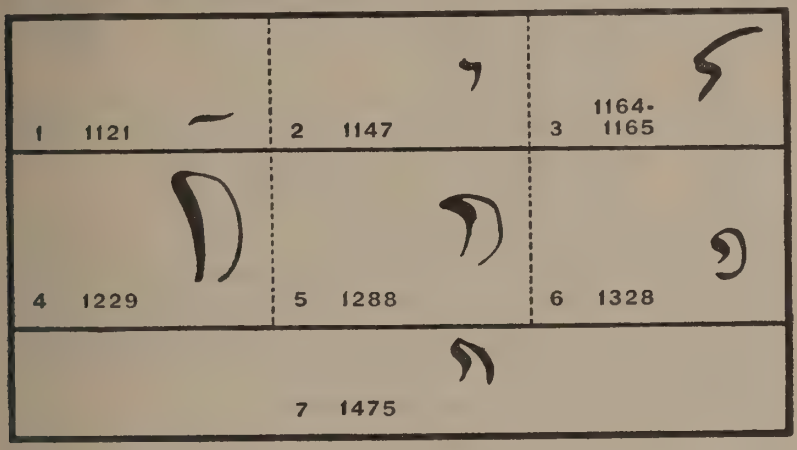


abbreviation mark when put through the upright of *b* or *h* usually stands for *er*.

We may suggest here that a simple horizontal or diagonal line, if it be curved at the ends, will naturally tend to curve upwards at the right-hand end and downwards at the left, no matter whether it be made from left to right or from right to left. This fact influences the history of other marks besides that now under examination, and of some letters, as, e.g. *x* and *z*.

NOTE. *m* or *n*. The omission of one of these letters is marked under the modern system of transcription by a straight, horizontal superior line. But, though the student will have little difficulty in finding instances of this or a similar mark throughout the illustrations here given, it is difficult to find any place where the same mark is not used for other purposes: and as, naturally, it is not susceptible of much modification, we have not thought it necessary to illustrate it here.

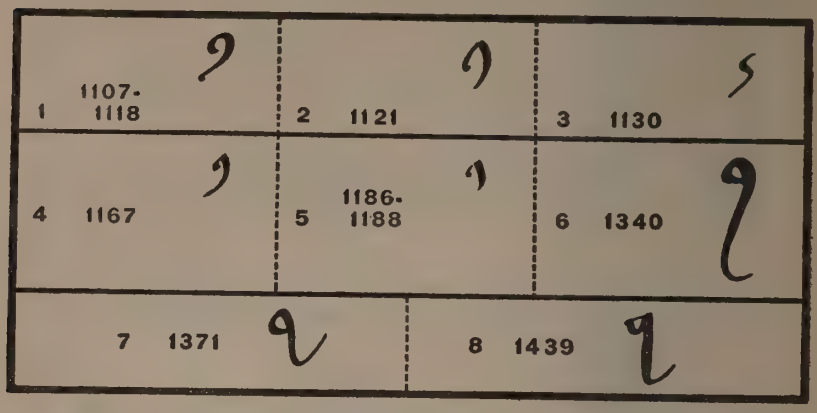
-er above the line. The first abbreviation used for *pre*, the book-hand sign, a short straight dash above the *p*, is dealt with below. Early in the 12th century, the habit was formed of using what is generally called the 'turn-up' mark for the *pre* abbreviation. We give (Nos. 2 and 3) two twelfth-century forms, one rather like an Arabic 7 or the contemporary Tironian *et*, one a simple zig-zag.



Early in the 13th century the sign developed, by currency, what was afterwards its normal character—a thin upward flourish (often springing from some part of a letter—for instance, the cross of a *t*), which curves to the left and ends in a marked vertical or diagonal down-stroke (Nos. 4 and 5). A further development of this is seen in Nos. 6 and 7, where the down-stroke curves back to the right and itself ends in a further little down-stroke placed almost at right angles to it. Points to be noticed with regard to this sign are that, placed over *p*, it always stands for *-re*; that it is not so used with other letters; that though, after the *pre* usage appears, it is most properly used with other letters to mean *-er*, it can at no time be said to mean that and nothing else; and that it is not the only abbreviation for *-er* (see above, p. xxiv. It appears most commonly attached to the cross-stroke of *t*, in which position it is represented, especially towards the end of our period, by little more than a round *o* mark; but a final *t* thus abbreviated may frequently stand for anything but *-ter*. This form is dealt with below, under 'Special Abbreviations of Single Letters'.

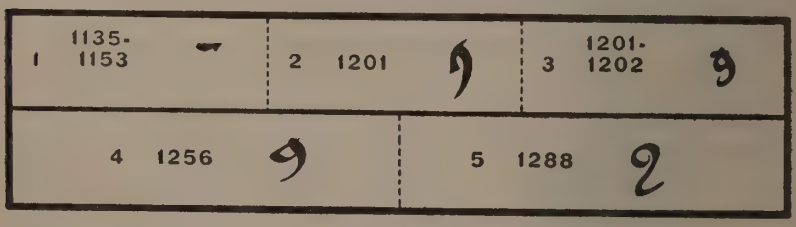
-us above the line. The variations of this sign call for no comment until we reach the 13th and early 14th centuries; when, like

z and the 3 sign for *-et*, *-ue*, and *-us*, it is found with a tail turned to the right instead of to the left, sometimes in an exceedingly marked degree (Nos. 6-8). It seldom goes so far in currency as to be made



in one stroke of the pen: when it does, it generally consists of the final long curved stroke preceded by two short ones made like the first two of the strokes of a current *n*. An extreme instance of currency is seen in No. 3. As a rule it consists of a short and a long stroke curved to meet each other.

Con. The earliest contraction for *con*, like that for *pre*, is a short, straight horizontal line placed above the *c* (No. 1). This is replaced during the 12th century by the ordinary Tironian sign



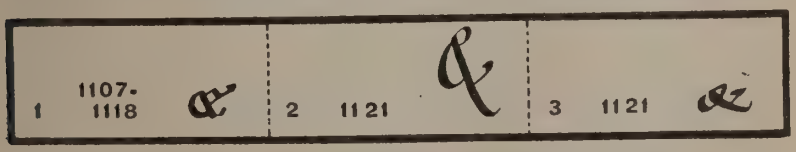
(No. 2)—a *q* with the tail curved to the left, the *o* part being on the line. We give a further illustration (No. 3); but the development of the sign (except in rare cases where it occurs as a capital, following the form of *O*) was the same as that of the superior *-us* abbreviation, which was made in the same way and was more frequently used. After the 13th century *con* was more generally written in full.

-ue, *-us*, and *-et*. This sign began as a semicolon (Nos. 1, 2, and 4): the primitive form, however, is soon modified, and our next example is of the *3* type, made by joining together the point and comma of the earlier sign. To this a head is added, the presence or absence of

which, together with the increase or decrease in the size of the tail, gives us the subsequent varieties of the sign up to the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century. After that, both the 3 proper and this sign appear with a tail turned to the right instead of to the left, a peculiarity common to other tailed letters, which is

seen up to the end of our period. Both *z* and the abbreviation now under notice have here to be distinguished carefully from the tailed round *r*. The sign is most commonly used for *-ue* (No. 10 is an example of this, and other instances may be seen under *que* below) and *-us*. We give, however, one instance (No. 9) of its use for *-et* (*patet*). Other well-known cases of this are supplied by *set* (=*sed*) and the still-used *viz.* for *videlicet*. All these continued in use, though not very commonly, throughout our period.

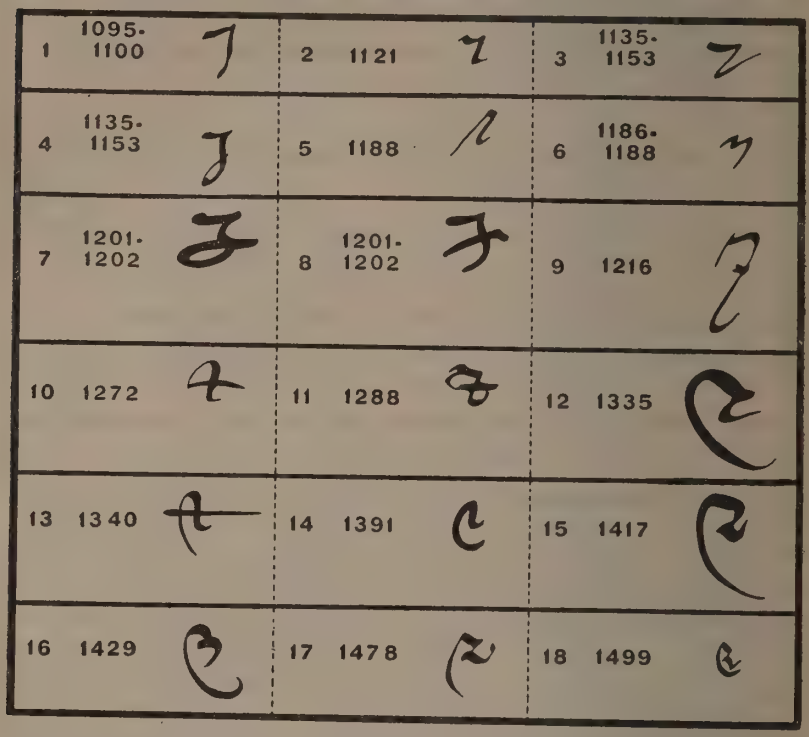
The ampersand form for *et* is rare even in early hands, the Tironian sign being practically always used. We give three



twelfth-century examples; the sign consists of a headless *a*, the second, or down-stroke of which is turned into an *e* by the addition of a small bow at the head: from about the middle of this

down-stroke springs, almost at right angles, a thin line, itself finished as a rule with a diagonal dash. Our second illustration, an enlarged form used at the beginning of a sentence, is interesting as showing, by the position of the bow of its *e*-part and of the final stroke, the way in which the form used in modern script and printing was evolved.

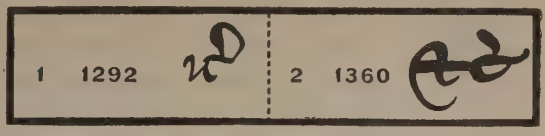
et or *and* (Tironian). It will be seen that this undergoes numerous modifications. Early forms generally resemble an Arabic 7,



though exceptions are seen in Nos. 3 and 5. The 7 form may curl either to the right or to the left at the foot or the down-stroke may be quite straight (Nos. 1, 2, and 6). The next form (Nos. 8 and 9) is made by the addition of a cross through the down-stroke —sometimes made by a continuation of the down-stroke (No. 7); from which is evolved a form like a *t* with a flourished head (No. 10). The flourish at the head increases till it becomes larger than the rest of the letter, while the cross disappears and the down-stroke is shortened (Nos. 12 and 14): then the curl or dash at the foot increases in size till it even extends below the line and we get the extreme fifteenth-century forms seen in Nos. 16 and 18.

etc. We give two examples of this constantly used abbreviation,

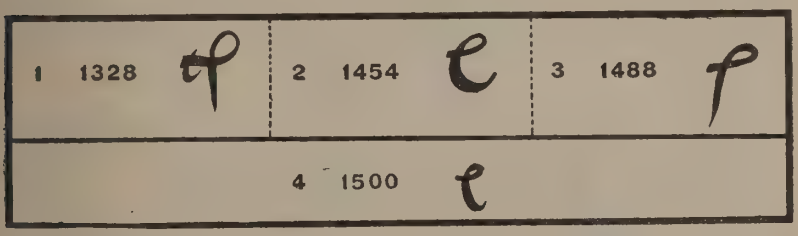
one of the 13th century and one of the 14th. Both consist of the Tironian *et* followed by an abbreviated *c*; for the variations of the former see the notes upon *et* above; the *c* is generally abbreviated with a mark of the *-er* abbreviation type applied to or continuing its cross-stroke in the normal way.



est. This mark was fairly common in the 12th century. Later in our period, though it did not die out entirely, it became quite rare and was probably little more than an archaism. We give

instances from the 12th and 13th centuries: the mark never developed into a letter form, like the semicolon standing for *-et*, which became a 3; and is naturally not subject to much modification, save in the central horizontal line, which may be curved according to the fashion of the period, and the lowest of the three marks employed, which may be either a dot or a comma.

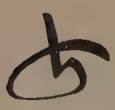
-es or *-is.* This late sign, always used in a final position, is very difficult to distinguish from the current form of the vertical cross-



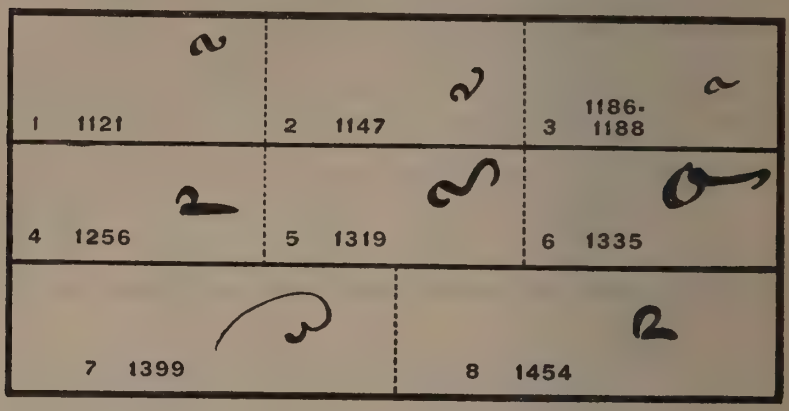
stroke noticed as abbreviating final *g* and other letters (see below, notes on *Abbreviations of Particular Letters*, and on the *-rum* abbreviation): it is most easily distinguished when used in an English passage at the end of what should obviously be a plural noun.

Its form needs little comment: the final stroke of the letter to which it is attached is turned over into a small bow or *o* mark (resting on the line), the down-stroke of which is produced below the line in a tail curving, as a rule, to the right.

Hec. We give a currently written example of the *H* with a line through its stem standing for *Hec*: the same fashion is often used with the small letter.

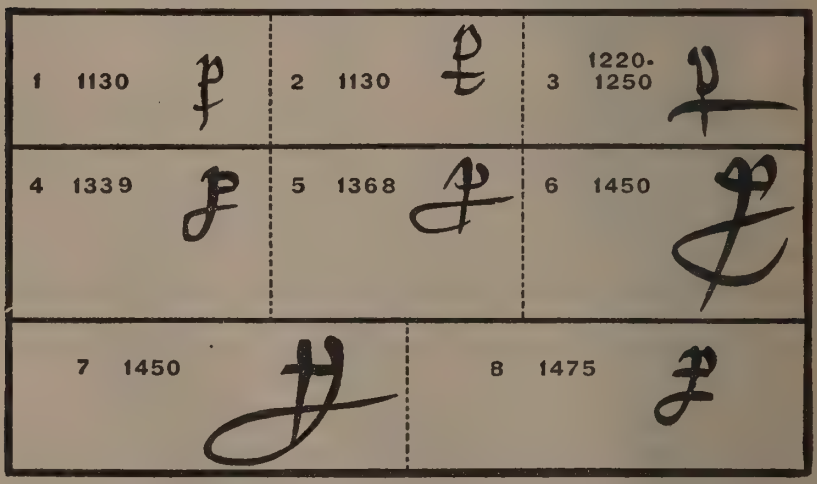


-ur. This sign, known also as superior *r*, is used to signify an omission, generally of *-ur* but sometimes of *r* in combination with another vowel. It varies throughout our period between two types; one of these is a perfect *r* of the



round kind placed above the line, examples of which are seen in Nos. 4 and 8; the other a line curved either in a simple double curve (No. 1) or in various shapes somewhat resembling *t* and *u* (Nos. 5, 6, and 7). The second of these types seems to be evolved out of the first, something of the process being seen in No. 2.

per. This abbreviation is very simple, consisting of a straight

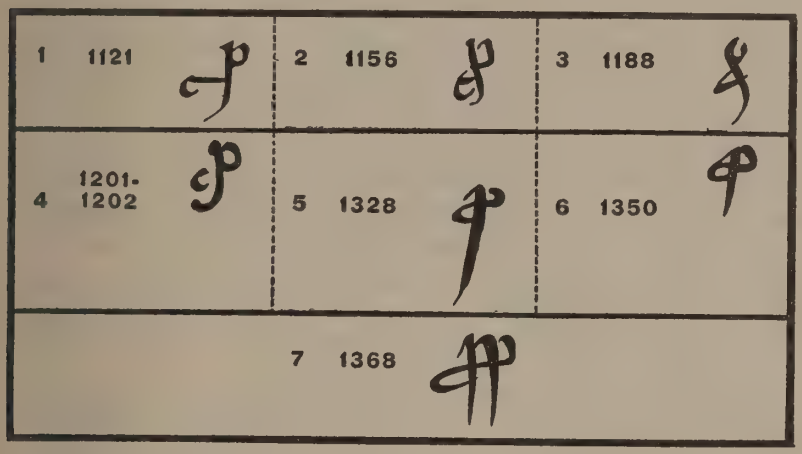


dash through the tail of the *p*, which is not susceptible of much

modification. We give (No. 1) an early example (1130). The second example shows its application (not seen in later hands) to the capital; while in the fifth and sixth it is seen represented by a curved line, and in Nos. 4 and 8 is made currently by a continuation of the tail of the *p*. Another not very rare current form is seen in No. 7, the contracting stroke running down from the bow of the letter and traversing the down-stroke twice, but in the reverse order to that seen in the *pro* sign (q. v.): this may be compared with No. 6.

pre. The book-hand form—a short straight line—borrowed by our Court hand is only of early use: we give one example, remarkable for the addition of a superior *a* (presumably an indication that *e* was not in this case substituted for the diphthong). It was soon superseded by the *-er* sign, remarks upon which will be found above.

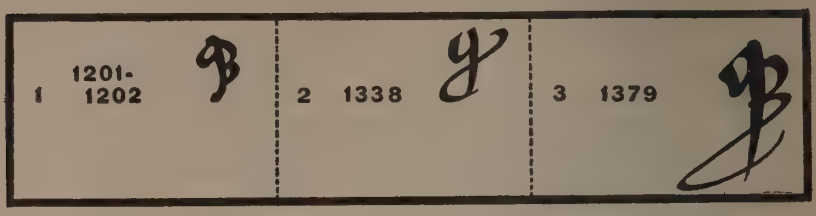
pro. In the first examples this abbreviation is made by the addition of one or even (No. 2) two separate strokes to the left-



hand side of the tail of the letter: in No. 4 the mark is even quite detached from the *p*. By this time, however, (before 1200) what was thereafter the normal form had been reached: in this the bow of the letter is continued through the down-stroke a little way, then turned down and brought back, generally, though not always (No. 6), through the down-stroke again. We give (No. 7) the result of this abbreviation in combination with a conjoined double *p*.

que. The 3 form joined with *q* for this purpose differs from the similar sign used to represent *-ue*, *-us*, and *-et* (of which see examples above) only in that it is habitually joined to the tail of the *q*. We give two examples (Nos. 1 and 3), the first from the end of the

12th century, the second from the 14th: note in the latter the curl of the tail to the right, seen also in the other 3 forms already men-

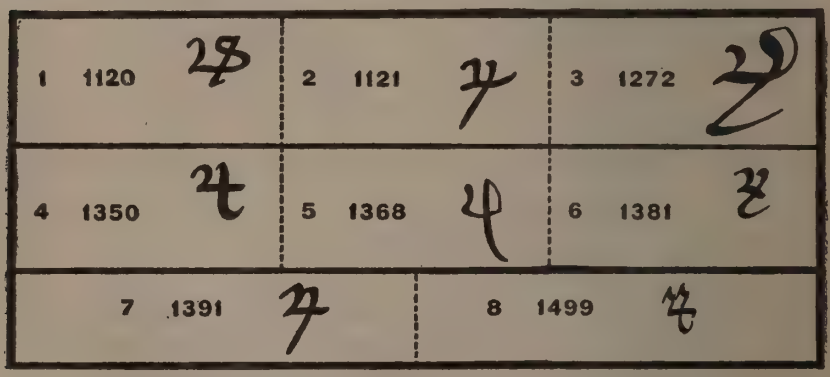


tioned and in *z* proper at the same period. We give further one example (No. 2) where the head of the 3 has disappeared, leaving only a curved line through the tail of the *q*.

quia. Here *q* is combined, again very closely, with a sign like the short *r* of the type which, with a cross-stroke, produces the *-rum* termination.

quod. In the form here shown, the tail of the *q* is traversed diagonally by an almost straight line which, when it reaches the level of the foot of the letter, turns back at an acute angle, its second part reaching back to the tail again: this sign closely resembles the *-er* abbreviation used towards the end of our period with the long *s*: cf. also the example (No. 2) of *que* given above.

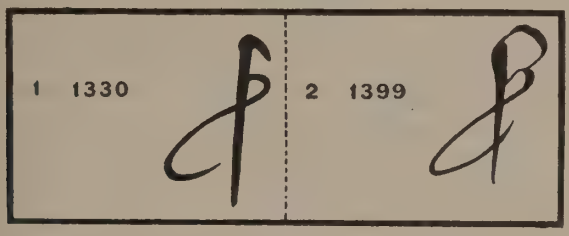
-rum. This sign shows little modification from its earliest form (seen in No. 2) save that involved in its being written alternatively with one, or with two, actions of the pen. An early and rather



elaborate instance of this formation in one action is seen in the first example given. Both methods are employed throughout the period. The formation of the fifth of our examples perhaps calls for special notice from its extreme currency. It has been observed that though this sign frequently stands for *-rum* it may be used to

represent other terminations: an instance being the well-known and frequent *Sarum*, which should properly be extended *Saresberia*. It is, in point of fact, merely an early manifestation of the mediaeval scribe's habit of abbreviating such letters as ended in a horizontal stroke by means of a vertical stroke through this. See a note on the *-es* abbreviation above, and remarks on *Some Special Abbreviations* below.

ser. *s* (or rather *ſ*) abbreviated with this mark (a diagonal line, curved upwards at its head and downwards at its foot, running



through the down-stroke or tail of the letter) is not commonly used till late in our period: it occurs fairly frequently in current fifteenth-century hands. Its earliest appearances are generally in Records written in French, where it very often stands for *sieur* or *seigneur*. Like the ordinary *-er* abbreviation, it may stand for other letters: it is so used particularly with final *s* or *ss*; but medially it generally preserves its strict signification.

SOME COMMONLY USED CONJOINED LETTERS AND ABBREVIATIONS OF SINGLE OR FINAL LETTERS

NOTE. It will be observed that we do not attempt to show here any of those idiosyncrasies of abbreviation or conjunction which must strike every one who has to deal often with writings coming from a large number of scribes, nor even to single out those which occur in the present Collection; but only to illustrate some common forms. The same consideration rules out entirely any attempt to deal with the peculiarities of individual writers in the matter of ties between letters, or between a letter and an abbreviation mark, in highly current hands.

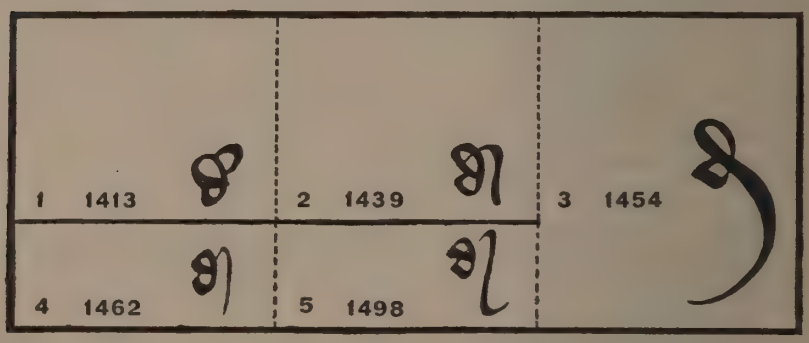
The *Abbreviations* are all instances of suspension, since all the letters given are final or isolated ones. Of the other methods of abbreviation (see pp. xxii seqq.), *superior letters* and *special signs* have been already dealt with; while in the matter of *contractions* common peculiarities of form are in connexion rather with the

particular letters left out (see p. xxx) than with the abbreviation sign employed. Suspension on the other hand had, owing to the position at the end of the word of the letter affected by the suspension mark, peculiar facilities for the development, through currency, of certain definite varieties of mark. Of these the most common is, it will be seen, the use of an extra stroke through the part of the letter last made, forming a + sign: this is the method which has produced the so-called *-rum* abbreviation (see under *Special Signs*): this form, when made currently, is very like the *-es* abbreviation (also noticed already). The methods of suspension shown under *d*, and under *m*, *n*, and *q*, are also very frequently used.

The *Conjunctions* commented on are deliberate ones rather than natural: the latter variety is exemplified by the tendency of two round letters to coalesce almost without thought on the part of the writer, and has been treated already under *b*, *p*, &c. Both must be distinguished from the *Ligature* (see under *s* and *t*), which consists in the junction of two letters by a deliberate extra stroke.

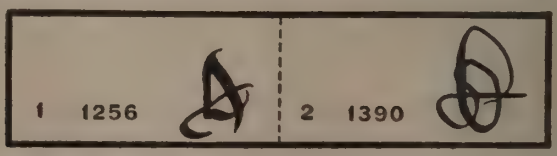
c. This is noticed below under the more common *t*.

d. We give five instances of final *d* abbreviated, one (No. 1) being



a late copy of the early ð (see p. 55), while four have various kinds of downward flourish—in one case (No. 3) a continuation of the final stroke of the letter: this last mentioned, being the easiest, becomes ultimately the most common form.

D. Two instances of the common abbreviation for *De*—much used



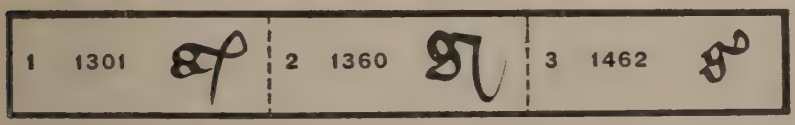
by the Exchequer scribes of the tally and Receipt Roll: in the second the abbreviation is made in one piece with the rest of the letter.

E. It is noticeable that though single letters standing for proper names are, as a rule, merely followed (or preceded and followed) by a full stop, not abbreviated, *E* (generally for *Edwardus*) often has the vertical cross-stroke seen in the present example. This may be due to the fact that, like *R*, the capital *E* offers peculiar facilities

for such use: but the influence of three kings called Edward, covering over one hundred years of administration between them (and at a most formative period), must not be overlooked; especially as concerns their effect on the Chancery Enrolment hands. The obviousness of the final cross-stroke accounts again for the very similar use of it illustrated in No. 2 where, carried on, it forms the cross of the *t* in *Et*. In late hands, however, another method is sometimes used (No. 3), where the heads of the two letters meet; so that the confusion disappears.

ff. Our example shows two points; one the method of conjoining two *f*s, the same as that seen in *sf*, *ss*, and the *ss* paragraph mark below, by which one head serves for both letters; the other, the suspension in the usual way of final *f*. Notice also that one cross-stroke serves for both letters.

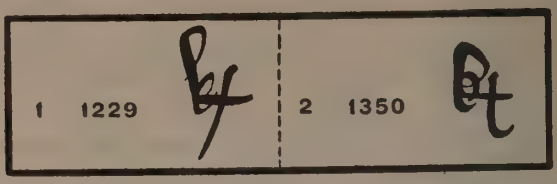
g. We give three instances of the suspension of final *g*. In the first (13th century), the usual mark is applied to the horizontal line at the head of the letter. In the second (14th century), the same part of the letter, instead of having



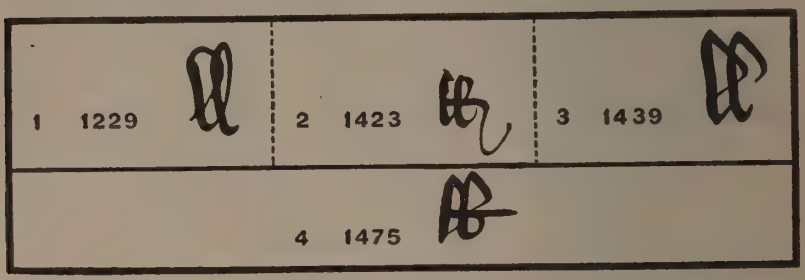
a stroke through it, is turned down at right angles (cf. the third example of abbreviated *d* above for this very simple fashion, which is probably a hasty substitute for the first mentioned). In the third (15th century), the same part again is turned upwards into a little *o*-shaped curl: this last use may be paralleled exactly in the case of *t* below.

k. Two instances of this letter in a final position, abbreviated

with the familiar vertical cross-mark : the extra stroke is here rather more ornate.



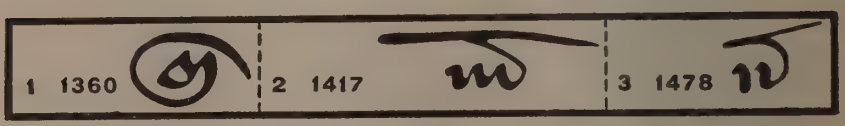
l. Four instances of double *l.* The first and third show the heads of the letters interlocking: in the other two, which show merely a current double letter, is seen the abbreviation of these letters in



a final position, the last example being a currently written one from an English document late in our period. We notice these because the custom of putting an abbreviation mark (sometimes a very faint one) through final *l* long survived, in many cases quite outliving its meaning: see a note in the same sense on *n* below.

m and *n.* Abbreviation of final *m* and *n* by means of an upward flourish of the last stroke : this is of the same date as the *ll* last mentioned and like it was very common, particularly in the case of *n*, and survived long. English documents at the end of our period often show quite needless abbreviations in this manner of many final letters (cf. above p. xxiii): the fact may be due to an instinctive feeling in scribes accustomed to write Latin that *n*, and some other consonants, could not be right as terminations.

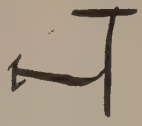
The very common isolated *n* for *noster* and its cases should be noticed: the abbreviation for this is frequently a continuation of



the last stroke downwards, backwards, and over (applied to *m* in our illustration, No. 1). A more general one is perhaps a more or less complete upward flourish and angular turn to the right, which

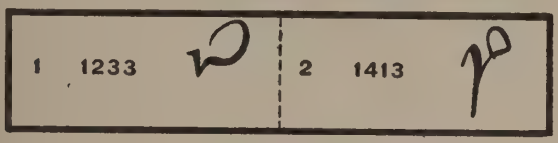
is seen applied to both letters in Nos. 2 and 3: this is also found with final *u*. The isolated *m* thus abbreviated may stand for various words—*manucaptus*, or *manerium*, for instance.

NT. We give an instance of a kind of conjoining of letters common in the 12th century, when also capitals frequently occur medially: T is a particularly favourite one as the second in such a conjunction.



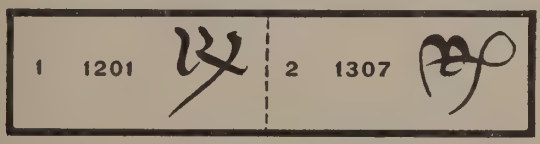
q. We give an example of the flourished *q* used for *que* or *qe*. It is particularly common in French documents of the 13th and 14th centuries, where it seems also to stand for *qui*. *Que*, in Latin documents, is not generally abbreviated in this way.

r. No. 1 is an early example of the flourished final *r*: we may note that it is taken from a French word in a Latin document. Later, a similar form (No. 2), which may be compared with the abbreviation of *t* below, became very common: it is particularly often used for *regni* in the phrase *anno*



regni Regis. A second one is used sometimes for *Regis*; or the two may be conjoined, only the second having the flourish.

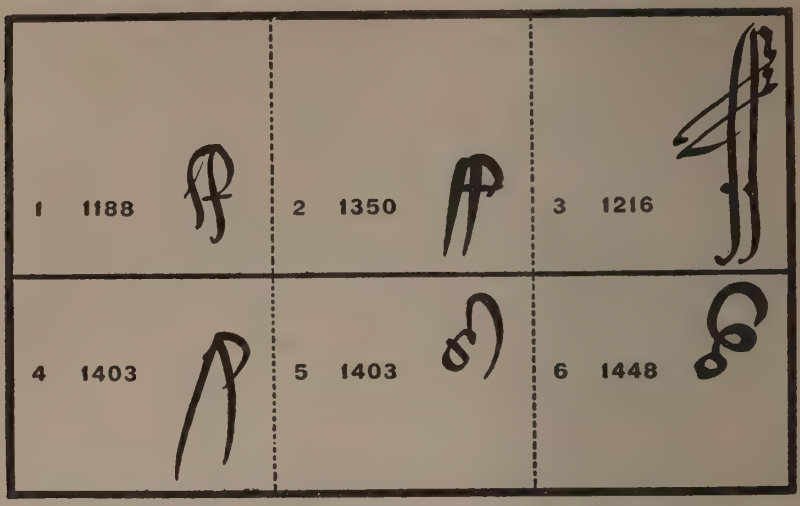
R. Two examples of abbreviated *R*. The first, an early one, is taken from the title in capitals so common in Pipe Rolls: the other, an instance of the well-known and constant abbreviation for *Rex*



and its cases, and less frequently for Christian names beginning with *R*, may be compared on both these grounds with *E* above. Both are, of course, abbreviated with the cross-stroke, this being made in the second in one action with the letter itself.

sf, *ss*, and *s*. The *s* and *ss* paragraph marks are dealt with elsewhere: also, of course, the ligature *st*. The two first examples given here show *sf* conjoined in the same way as *ff* above. The third (from an ecclesiastical hand and with typical ornamentation) shows the interlocking double-head noticed under *ll*. No. 4, a curious fifteenth-century form, exhibits the 'compass' quality typical of its period.

The isolated *s*, standing for *solidi* (shillings), is generally marked during the larger part of our period with a plain superior abbrevia-

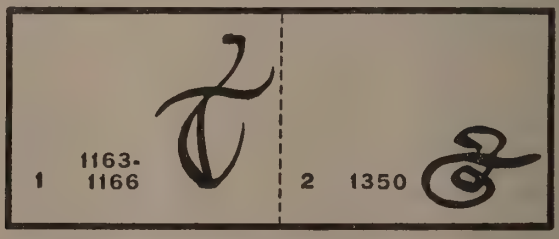


tion: we give, however, two fifteenth-century examples in which the suspension is made by a continuation of the letter (Nos. 5 and 6).

t. This letter, especially in the latter part of our period, is very frequently abbreviated with a neat *o*-shaped curl at the end of its cross, a derivative from the old superior *-er* abbreviation. The

same mark naturally occurs also on *c* (No. 2), particularly in the mark used for *etc.* (q. v.). Generally, it is made by a continuation of the cross (No. 3): we give, however, one instance (No. 1) where the body of the letter is continued in a curl of the reverse fashion, which is then itself turned back to form the cross.

T. We give a very early instance of the very common abbreviation of *T* (generally for *Testibus* in Chancery Documents) with what is



probably meant for a separate superior abbreviation mark. In No. 2 is seen a very curious current writing of this.

x. It should be clear from the foregoing remarks that the distinction between an ordinary superior abbreviation made currently in combination with the letter itself on the one hand, and on the other the continuation of some part of the letter into a flourish that cannot be definitely interpreted as any one of these ordinary separate abbreviation marks, is not always an easy one to make. We give the accompanying *x* as an example of the way in which the first-named practice may be applied to almost any letter.

NUMERALS

Roman. Arabic numerals are of very rare occurrence in our period, the Record scribe preferring the Roman characters to which he was more accustomed. These may be studied under *i* and *j*; *C*; *D*; *l*; *M* (particularly the uncial form); and *x*. It is to be noted with regard to *i* and *j* that when acting as numerals they usually remain unaccented as in the illustration (a Roman 3).

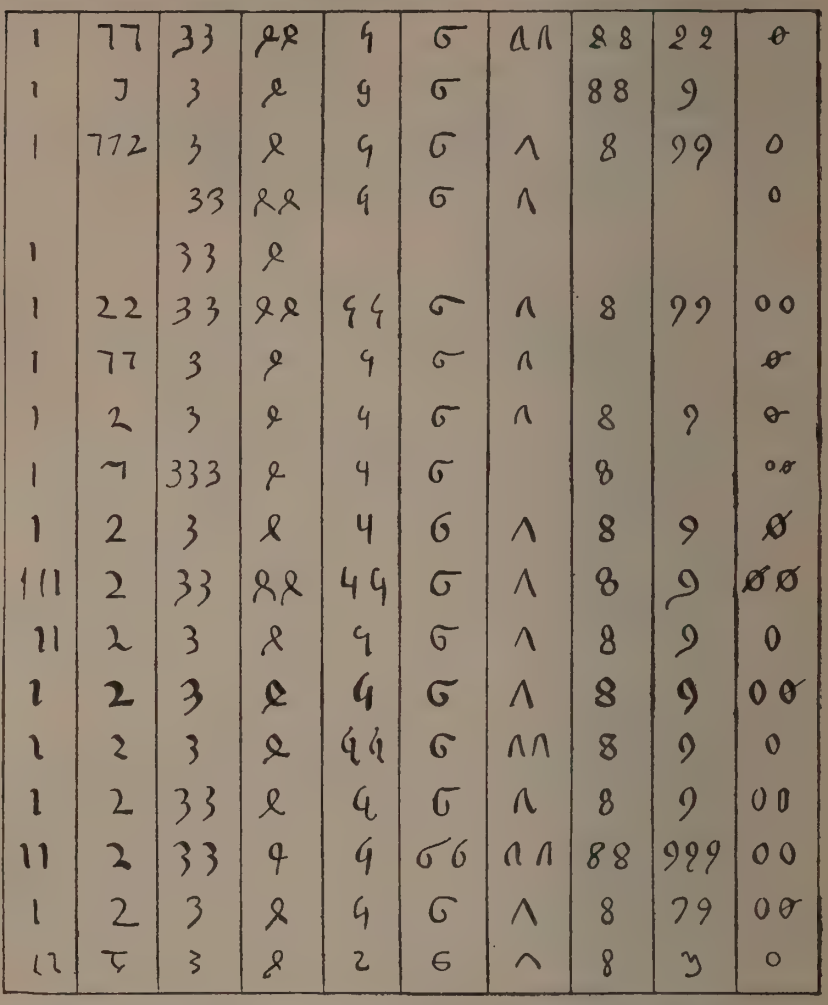
Arabic. Though uncommon, the use of these is well determined: for their variations the student may be referred to an excellent paper by Mr. G. F. Hill;[1] from which we are enabled to reprint the accompanying Plate of fourteenth-century examples by the courtesy of the *Society of Antiquaries of London*.

Perhaps the most notable point about the Arabic forms is the way in which some of them follow the contemporary variations of letters which they resemble: thus 3 distinctly resembles ȝ and the ȝ contraction for *-et* or *-us* and the formation of its tail or second curve varies in a way similar to that of the letter; 5 occasionally (though there is no instance in this Plate) takes the form of *h*; 6 is suggestive of G; and 8 often follows the formation of a certain variety of *g*; while 9 recalls the variations of the ordinary *-us* sign, and the cipher those of *o*.

Of the other numerals, 1 shows several examples here of its most characteristic form—a vertical down-stroke with slight finishing dashes to the left at the head and to the right at the foot. 2 has a form, not seen here, which is something between the early one of Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and that of No. 6; in which the tail or second stroke takes a vertical rather than a horizontal position: 3 is occasionally made by the addition of a horizontal dash through the upper part of this form: 4 and 5 show little likeness to modern forms which

[1] *Archaeologia*, vol. lxii, part 1, p. 137.

both approach most nearly in No. 16. The first figure of 7 shown is noticeable, being like current *A* ; the same form has been found a century later: anything at all like the modern 7 is very rare till



a much later date. The duplication of the line through the body of *o* is noticeable in No. 11: this stroke through *o* is sometimes vertical, especially in the 15th century; the figure is then often made currently in one action, resembling a fourteenth-century *e*.

Most of the figures are, and all may be, made without lifting the pen.

The Use of the Abacus. The reason for the rarity of Arabic numerals in records is probably the survival of the method of performing arithmetical operations by the use of the *Abacus* rather

than by *Algorism*. The same cause gives rise to another method of expressing figures which is found in the margins of accounts and elsewhere from the 13th century onwards, but most frequently in the 15th and 16th centuries. Two forms of this are described by Robert Recorde in his 'Ground of Artes' published 1543, the latter form is more usual in records. We quote from another work[1] a description of both forms:

Merchants' Use. The counters [here replaced by dots] are arranged in rows, the pence nearest to the operator; above them the shillings, then the pounds, then scores of pounds, then hundreds, and so on. For the pence, 6 d. is indicated by a counter placed above the line, and the remaining units by counters on the line. For the shillings, 10 s. is indicated by a counter above the line, and the units by counters grouped on the line. The pounds and scores of pounds are treated in the same way. If we now set down in this manner the sum of £198 19s. 11d. it will appear as below:

[Note that the dots on the left in each case represent fives.]

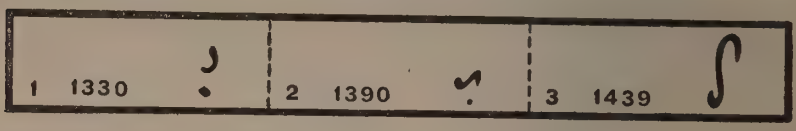
Auditors' Use. Here the counters are placed in columns, and Recorde points out that the units are spread over as many lines as the operator may find convenient. It may be added that they are placed in two rows, and not more than three in a row. For the pence, a single counter above the units signifies 6 d.; in the shillings, a single counter above the units on the right signifies 5, and a single counter on the left 10; and the same system applies to the pounds, scores of pounds, and so on. We may now set down after the 'Auditors' Use' the sum of £198 19s. 11d. as before:

It will be observed that both these systems are mere representations on paper of the columns and counters of the abacus, the counters being represented by dots of ink.

[1] *De Necessariis Observantiis Scaccarii Dialogus*, ed. A. Hughes, C. G. Crump, and C. Johnson, p. 39. Compare Mr. Hubert Hall's paper in Pipe Roll Soc. Vol. VII, p. viii, and the examples in Martin's *Record Interpreter*: also Dr. R. L. Poole's remarks in *The Exchequer in the 12th Century*.

PUNCTUATION

We have thought it unnecessary to give many examples of punctuation, as a reference to the Plates will serve the same purpose better. In the 11th and 12th centuries the most usual point is the full stop, which is freely used, and marks both long and short pauses. Towards the end of this period we find a reversed semicolon employed to mark intermediate pauses, especially those of importance, such as the end of a long, dependent clause: we give two rather later examples (Nos. 1 and 2). The colon is also, but rarely, employed for this purpose, and more frequently as a final stop. About the latter part of the 13th century a light



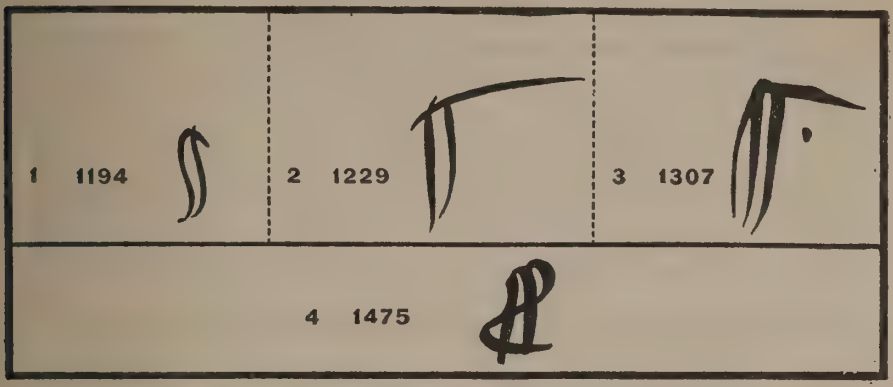
oblique dash, practically equivalent to a comma, begins to appear, and supplants the full stop as a rule, except for long pauses. The inverted semicolon becomes also less common, though it persists and is often written in one piece, like an inverted comma. We give an example (No. 3) of this current form, which may often be confused with an *i* similarly written. As we advance through our period, capitals are more and more freely employed to mark fresh clauses, and by the 15th century have very largely taken the place of the other methods of punctuation, a practice which survives in legal documents to the present day. There is no trace in our examples of the method of punctuation by full stops at varying heights above the line which is sometimes found in book hand.

Notice should be taken of the use of a full stop before and after *Sigla* and numerals, and of the derived use of two points (the *gemi-punctus*), at first employed with an initial where the full name (*honoris causa*) was omitted and ultimately representing a name or initial entirely omitted. This device is not employed with any great uniformity, but is especially common in ecclesiastical documents and is also much used in Chancery Enrolments.

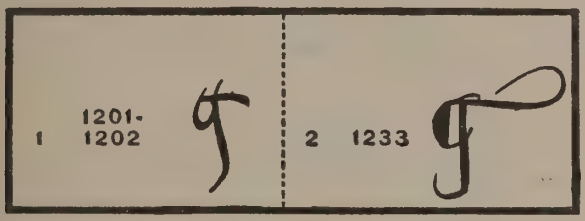
PARAGRAPH MARKS

We give examples of four varieties.

a. This consists of two long *s* s conjoined. This mark continues



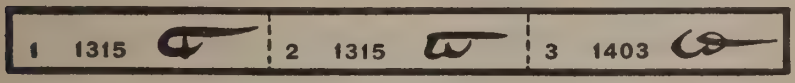
in use from the beginning to the end of our period: different forms with a horizontal line added to the head, with a bow to the first *s*, and with a flourish to the second, are seen in Nos. 2, 3, and 4.



b. This is not a common form: apparently it represents a *j*, though the preliminary flourish, like a superior *a*, attached to our two examples is confusing.

c. A single *s* of the *σ* type.

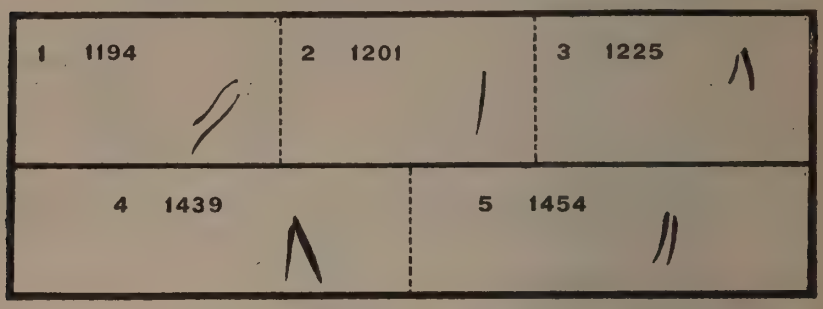
d. An ordinary Capital *C* (No. 1), doubtless standing for *Capitulum*. From this was apparently evolved by hasty handwriting



(see numerous examples on Plate XXII A) a form resembling superior *a*, two examples of which we give (Nos. 2 and 3). This *a* form became very common.

INSERTION OF EXTRA WORDS

It is often very difficult (particularly in Enrolments) to determine the exact place to which an interlineation should be assigned and we therefore give several examples of *caret* marks. The earliest form of this mark was probably a single diagonal dash (as in the



second illustration) placed below the line between the words where the omission occurred. Almost contemporary with this, we find the use of two parallel diagonal lines (No. 1). The two lines being inclined so as to meet at an angle give us the ordinary sign as it is still used.

Long passages are added by the use of various marks of reference of which no particular description can be given.

DELETION

Deletion is effected in the following ways.

(1) Erasure, i. e. scraping the surface of the parchment and either leaving the space blank, filling it up with a line, or writing new words over the erasure.

(2) Cancellation proper, i. e. drawing a line through the word to be cancelled, or, if the entry is a long one, drawing cross-lines through it.

(3) Underlining the word to be deleted.

(4) Expunging, or placing a dot under each letter to be left out.

(5) Obliteration or blotting-out, i. e. covering the whole word or passage with ink.

(6) Vacation, i.e. writing the word *vacat* against the entry. This is often done so that the first syllable *va* precedes, and the syllable *cat* follows the words to be deleted. An amusing example will be found in the Charter Roll, 8 Edward III, *m.* 1 (see the Record Office *Calendar*).

LIST OF PLATES

PLATE

I. (*a*) Charter of William I to the church of Coventry. (1070?)
(*b*) Writ of William II, granting an exchange of land. (1095–1100)
(*c*) Charter of Henry I to the church of Canterbury. (1123)

II. (*a*) Charter of Henry I to Lewes priory. (1107–1118)
(*b*) Charter of Henry I to Miles of Gloucester. (1121)
(*c*) Charter of Stephen to Holy Trinity, London. (1135–1153)
(*d*) Charter of Maud, his queen, to the same. (1135–1153)

III. Charter of Ralph, archbishop of Canterbury, to Lewes priory. (1121)

IV. (*a*) Great Roll of the Exchequer ('Pipe Roll'), Essex. (1130)
(*b*) Covenant between Lewes priory and John de Chaisneto. (1147)

V. (*a*) Gift by John de Chaisneto to Lewes priory. (*c.* 1147)
(*b*) Great Roll of the Exchequer. Surrey. (1156)

VI. Confirmation by William, bishop of Exeter, to Barnstaple priory (Copy). (12th cent.)

VII. (*a*) Charter of Henry II to Gervase de Cornhull. (1164–1165)
(*b*) Charter of Henry II to Eustace Cade. (1163–1166)
(*c*) Bond of Henry de Hastings to Henry de Cornhell. (1177)
(*d*) Charter of Henry II to the abbey of Cîteaux. (1186 or 1188)

VIII. Great Roll of the Exchequer. Kent. (1167)

IX. (*a*) Roll of Pleas of the King's Court. (1194)
(*b*) Charter of John to Carhow priory. (1202)
(*c*) Charter of John to William earl of Warenne. (1204)
(*d*) Submission of John, constable of Chester, to king John. (1215)

X. (*a*) Roll of Letters Patent. (1201–1202)
(*b*) Letter of Walter, archbishop of York, to Hubert de Burgh. (1220)

XI. Great Roll of the Exchequer. Berkshire. (1214)

XII. (*a*) Assessment of a Fifteenth. (1225)
(*b*) The same.
(*c*) Letter of William Longespée to Hubert de Burgh. (1218)
(*d*) Letter of Fulk FitzWarin to the same. (1226?)

Plate		
XIII.	(*a*) Roll of Pleas of the Common Bench.	(1229)
	(*b*) Treaty of Llewelyn ap Griffith with Henry II.	(1265)
	(*c*) Inquisition as to lands of rebels.	(1270)
XIV.	Roll of Letters Patent.	(1232)
XV.	Receipt Roll of the Exchequer.	(1233)
XVI.	Great Roll of the Exchequer. Cambridge and Huntingdon.	(1256)
XVII.	(*a*) Roll of Letters Patent.	(1272)
	(*b*) Foot and Indentures of Fine.	(1272)
XVIII.	(*a*) Court Roll of the Fair of St. Ives.	(1275)
	(*b*) Roll of Pleas before Justices in Eyre.	(1292)
XIX.	(*a*) Gift by Walter de Clive of a tenement in London.	(1289)
	(*b*) Roll of Letters Patent.	(1301)
XX.	(*a*) Lease by John son of Walter to the abbot and convent of Dore.	(1288)
	(*b*) Memoranda Roll (Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer).	(1303)
XXI.	(*a*) Roll of Pleas of the Common Bench.	(1307)
	(*b*) Court Roll of Brightwalton.	(1328)
XXII.	(*a*) Issue Roll of the Exchequer.	(1315)
	(*b*) Letter of Privy Seal in the hand of Richard de Bury, countersigned by Edward III.	(*c.* 1330)
	(*c*) Bill under the Secret Seal.	(1335)
XXIII.	(*a*) Roll of Letters Patent.	(1320)
	(*b*) Indenture concerning the furniture of the Courts at York.	(1320)
XXIV.	(*a*) King's Bench Controlment Roll.	(1339)
	(*b*) Roll of Pleas of the Common Bench.	(1360)
XXV.	Charter Roll.	(1340)
XXVI.	Great Roll of the Exchequer. London.	(1346)
XXVII.	Roll of Letters Patent.	(1350)
XXVIII.	(*a*) Roll of Pleas in the Exchequer.	(1368)
	(*b*) Charter Roll.	(1371)
XXIX.	(*a*) Roll of the Court of King's Bench.	(1379)
	(*b*) Inquisition taken by the Escheator 'virtute officii'.	(1391)
XXX.	(*a*) Letters Patent of licence to alienate in mortmain.	(1381)
	(*b*) Council Warrant for the Great Seal.	(1392)
	(*c*) King's Bill.	(1399)
XXXI.	Roll of Letters Close.	(1389)
XXXII.	Roll of 'Foreign Accounts' of the Exchequer.	(1392)
XXXIII.	Bailiff's ('Ministers') Account.	(1403)

Plate		
XXXIV.	Charter Roll, showing Charter of 'Inspeximus'.	(1413)
XXXV.	Issue Roll of the Exchequer.	(1417)
XXXVI.	(*a*) Account Book of the Wardrobe.	(1425)
	(*b*) Bill in Chancery.	(1436–1450)
XXXVII.	Plea Roll, Palatinate of Lancaster.	(1429)
XXXVIII.	(*a*) Roll of Letters Patent.	(1439)
	(*b*) Council Warrant for the Great Seal.	(1454)
XXXIX.	Receipt Roll of the Exchequer.	(1448)
XL.	(*a*) Controlment Roll of the King's Bench.	(1450)
	(*b*) Letters Patent of grant of an office.	(1468)
XLI.	(*a*) Charter Roll.	(1462)
	(*b*) Memoranda Roll (King's Remembrancer).	(1475)
XLII.	(*a*) Foot of Fine.	(1478)
	(*b*) Private Letter (Cely Correspondence).	(1488)
XLIII.	Dorse of a Close Roll, showing deeds enrolled.	(1500)
XLIV.	Roll of 'Foreign Accounts' of the Exchequer. (Account of the 'Domus Conversorum'.)	(1501)

LIST OF PLATES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO HANDWRITING

COURT HANDS PROPER

ENROLMENTS (OF PROCEEDINGS AND OF ORIGINALS).

Exchequer.		Plate
Pipe Roll	1130	IV (*a*)
Pipe Roll	1156	V (*b*)
Pipe Roll	1167	VIII
Pipe Roll	1214	XI
Receipt Roll	1233	XV
Pipe Roll	1256	XVI
L.T.R. Memoranda Roll	1303	XX (*b*)
Issue Roll	1315	XXII (*a*)
Pipe Roll	1346	XXVI
Foreign Roll	1392	XXXII
Issue Roll	1417	XXXV
Receipt Roll	1448	XXXIX
K. R. Memoranda Roll	1475	XLI (*b*)
Foreign Roll	1499	XLIV
Chancery.		
Patent Roll	1201–2	X (*a*)
Patent Roll	1232	XIV
Patent Roll	1272	XVII (*a*)
Patent Roll	1301	XIX (*b*)

		Plate
Patent Roll	1320	XXIII (*a*)
Patent Roll	1350	XXVII
Charter Roll	1371	XXVIII (*b*)
Close Roll	1389	XXXI
Charter Roll	1413	XXXIV
Patent Roll	1439	XXXVIII (*a*)
Charter Roll	1462	XLI (*a*)
Close Roll	1500	XLIII
Plea Rolls.		
Curia Regis Roll	1194	IX (*a*)
Curia Regis Roll	1229	XIII (*a*)
[Fine	1272	XVII (*b*)]
Assize Roll	1292	XVIII (*b*)
de Banco Roll	1307	XXI (*a*)
Controlment Roll	1339	XXIV (*a*)
de Banco Roll	1360	(*b*)
Exchequer Plea Roll	1368	XXVIII (*a*)
Coram Rege Roll	1379	XXIX (*a*)
Palatinate of Lancaster Plea Roll	1429	XXXVII
Controlment Roll	1450	XL (*a*)
[Foot of Fine	1478	XLII (*a*)]
Original Royal Charters and Letters Patent.		
Charter of William I	? 1070	I (*a*)
Charter of William II	1095–1100	(*b*)
Charter of Henry I	1107–1118	II (*a*)
Charter of Henry I	1121	(*b*)
Charter of Henry I	1123	I (*c*)
Charter of Stephen	1135–1153	II (*c*)
Charter of Queen Maud	„	(*d*)
Charter of Henry II	1164–1165	VII (*a*)
Charter of Henry II	1163–1166	(*b*)
Charter of Henry II	1186 or 1188	(*d*)
Charter of John	1202	IX (*b*)
Charter of John	1204	(*c*)
Charter of Richard II	1381	XXX (*a*)
Letters Patent of Edward IV	1468	XL (*b*)
Miscellaneous Secretarial Hands.		
Letter of Llewelin, Prince of Wales	1265	XIII (*b*)
Letter of Edward III	*c.* 1330	XXII (*b*)
Chancery Warrant	1335	(*c*)
Sheriff's Account	1340	XXIII (*b*)
Chancery Warrant	1392	XXX (*b*)
Wardrobe Account	? 1423	XXXVI (*a*)
Chancery Warrant	1454	XXXVIII (*b*)

PROVINCIAL OR PRIVATE HANDS

		Plate
Official Documents.		
Assessments for a Fifteenth	1225	XII (*a*) and (*b*)
Inquisition	1270	XIII (*c*)
Inquisition	1391	XXIX (*b*)
Chancery Warrant	1399	XXX (*c*)
Chancery Proceeding	*c.* 1436	XXXVI (*b*)
Private Documents.		
Enrolments.		
Court Roll	1275	XVIII (*a*)
Court Roll	1328	XXI (*b*)
Ministers' Account	1403	XXXIII
Original Charters and Letters.		
Ecclesiastical.		
Charter of Ralph, Archbishop of Canterbury	1121	III
Chirograph	1147	IV (*b*)
Copy of a Charter	(12th Century)	VI
Letter of Walter, Archbishop of York	1220	X (*b*)
Private.		
Grant by John de Chaisneto	*c.* 1147	V (*a*)
Grant by Henry de Hastings	1177	VII (*c*)
Grant by John, Constable of Chester	1215	IX (*d*)
Letter of William Longespee, earl of Salisbury	1218–1221	XII (*c*)
Letter of Fulk fitz Warin	[after 1217]	XII (*d*)
Grant by John fitz Walter	1288	XX (*a*)
Grant by Walter Clive	1289	XIX (*a*)
Letter of William Cely	1488	XLII (*b*)

Note.—It has been thought better here to make a separate list of documents having a definitely ecclesiastical origin; because they sometimes have peculiar characteristics: this is not, however, always the case, as may be seen by comparison of the 'ecclesiastical' with the 'private' hands in Plates IV (*b*) and V (*a*); the two documents, here listed separately, were probably written by the same hand.

TRANSCRIPTS AND NOTES UPON THE PLATES

PLATE I, A

British Museum. Add. Charter 11205.

A.D. 1070?

[Facsimile and transcript: *Charters in the British Museum*, vol. i, No. 1.]

The writing of this charter, one of the few of William I, does not differ materially in style from the Latin Charters of the period before the Conquest. The hand is upright and rounded, but not at all current. The majuscule letters are mixed, partly of capital types, partly like the minuscule on a large scale. The tops of the letters show a tendency to become notched.

Individual letters. *a* is usually headless, but occasionally has a short head. *A* is of both types. *Æ* is retained, but the tailed *e* is substituted in the minuscule and once even in the majuscule (*Mariæ* l. 3). *d* is of the round or uncial type except in *deo* (l. 3) where the upright form is preserved. *e* is made with an oblique upward dash under the loop: the tailed *e* is once employed by mistake for *e* (*salute* l. 4). *f* is both of the long and of the short-headed or Saxon variety (ll. 3, 4, 6, 7). *g* is of the Saxon form without an upper bow, but with a straight line over the top: the lower bow is open with a slight hook. The bow of *H* comes very slightly below the line. Double *ii* are accented and *i* final is only exceptionally brought below the line (*comiti* l. 1). *m*, *n*, and *u* are clearly distinguished: the uncial form of *m* is not used. *r* is not produced below the line and the shoulder is of the ordinary Latin form, the long shoulder used in Saxon writing being reserved at this date for English documents: the round *r* is only employed in the compendium for *-rum*. Both the long and the short form of *s* are used indifferently. *u* is both medial and initial except in majuscule where *V* is used. *W* is of the simplest form, the minuscule *w* being merely a reduction in scale: the Saxon ƿ is not used.

The **Abbreviations** are few and simple. The common sign of suspension and contraction is a horizontal line slightly curved up at one end, and this also serves for omitted *m*. The special signs for *-us* and

-rum are found, and the semicolon is used for *-ue*. The Tironian sign is employed for *et*. *per* and *pro* have the usual forms.

There are no **ligatures**.

Punctuation. The full stop on the line is used for short and long pauses, the semicolon for intermediate stops.

No **hyphen** is used.

The parchment shows distinct marks of **ruling**.

PLATE I, B

P. R. O. Royal Charters (Duchy of Lancaster), No. 1.

A. D. 1095–1100.

[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Society), No. 1.]

The writing of this writ is quite distinct from the Anglo-Saxon type, and is based on the Caroline minuscule. The tall letters are not notched, but have a fine loop at the top approximating to a beak: the pen is scarcely, if at all, slanted.

Individual letters. *a* has only occasionally a head (*Witchona* l. 3). *d* is invariably of the round or uncial form. The tailed and the plain *e* are alike used for *æ* (l. 1). The tails of *f* and *s* and the bow of *h* only come slightly below the line. *g* has a marked flat top-stroke, the tail has a very sharp bend forward, and the loop is closed. The short *s* is not used, even at the end of a word. *u* only occurs in the middle of words, *v* being used as the initial. *W* has the simple form of two interlaced *V*s.

In **Abbreviation** suspensions are very freely used, even when there is no clue to the extension (*Abetot* l. 3, *Haimonis* l. 4). The common sign is an oblique stroke, also used for *n* (*francis* l. 2) and for contractions. A semicolon (;) is used for *-us* and the Tironian sign for *et*.

The only **ligature** is *st*.

Punctuation. The words are not always completely separated (ll. 1, 3). Short pauses are indicated by a dot a little above the line, a longer pause by a semicolon (l. 2), the conclusion by a full stop on the line. Observe the spellings *Lincolie* and *escanbium*.

Two tags have been cut, one for the seal, the other presumably to fasten up the writ.

Willelmus. rex anglorum. Rotberto. episcopo. lincolie. Osberto. vicecomiti. lincolie. et Baronibus suis / et fidelibus francis et anglis; salutem. Sciatis quod concedo escanbium quod fecerunt. / .Vrsus. de abetot. et Rotbertus. de laceio de Ingoluesmera. et de Witchona. / Testibus. Rotberto. episcopo. lincolie. et. R. filio Haimonis. apud. Brichestocham.

PLATE I, c

British Museum. Campbell Charters, xxi. 6.

A. D. 1123.

[Facsimile and transcript in *Facsimiles of Royal and Other Charters in the British Museum*, vol. i, No. 6.]

This specimen is the English half of a bilingual charter of Henry I. It is selected as presenting early examples of the *runes* which we find again in later English documents. Although unusual in form it is most likely genuine, and is in any case almost certainly of the 12th century. Sir G. F. Warner and Mr. Ellis remark that 'it is written by a book-scribe rather than in a charter hand'. The Latin has been omitted from considerations of space, the forms of the letters being similar to those of other documents given.

Individual letters. *a.* Note the diphthong æ. *d* is of the uncial type, as distinguished from the minuscule *d* used in the Latin. *f* is of the Saxon type, the *f* above the line being used in the Latin. *g* is similarly distinguished by its horizontal head; this is the type which develops into the later ȝ familiar in printed Scottish. The form of *K* is noticeable. *r* has the deep shoulder of the Anglo-Saxon type, the Latin *r* being normal: the round form is not employed. *v* does not appear. *W* though used in the Latin is here replaced by the rune Wen (ƿ). *Th* is indifferently represented by the modified *d* (ð) and by Thorn (þ). The confusion caused by the misunderstanding of these signs is shown in the later copy (Plate XXXIV).

Abbreviations are few. Note however the use of the *Nomen Sacrum* in lines 2 and 8, and the Tironian *et.* In the Latin the ampersand is used.

Punctuation. Full stops are used throughout.

H. þurh godesgeuu Ænglelandes kyning grete ealle mine bis-
sceopes. and ealle mine eorles. and ealle mine scirgereuan. and
ealle / mine ðegenas Francisce and Ænglisce. on þam sciran þe
Willelm ærcebiscop and se hired æt Christescircean on Cantwara-
berig habbað land / inne freondlice. and ic cyðe eow þæt ic habbe
heom geunnon þæt hi bion æle þara lande wurðe þe hi hefdon on
Eadwordes / kynges dæge mines mæges. and on Willelmes kynges
dæge mines fæder. and saca. and socne. on strande and on streame.
on wudan / and on feldan. tolnes and teames. griðbreces and
hamsocne. forstealles and infangenes þeofes. and flæmene fermðe
ofer here agene / mæn binnon burgan and buton. swa full and
swa forð swa mine agene wicnæres hit secan sceoldon. and ofer
swa fela þegena / swa ic heom to gelæten habbe. and ic nelle
þæt ænig man ænig þing þer on tyo buton hi. and heora wicnere
þe hi hit / betæcen willað. ne Frencisc ne Ænglisc. for þan þingan

þe ic habbe Christe þas gerihte for gefen minre sawle to ærere / alysednesse. eal swa Eadward kyning and min fæder ær hæfdon. and ic nelle geþafian þæt ænig man þis tobrece be minan / fullan freondscipe. God eow gehealde.

PLATE II, A

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, Series A.

(Book of Lewes Priory Charters, p. 41 (3))

A. D. 1107–18.

[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Soc.), No. 4.]

An example of early twelfth-century charter hand based on Caroline minuscule and with no sign of Court-hand forms. There is a slight tendency to the ornament found in continental diplomatic hands of the period, e.g. the flourishes to *s* and *f* and the *-rum* of Anglorum in l. 1. Important names are written in capitals with uncial forms for A, H, L, and M. The names of the witnesses are followed by crosses representing their marks, a practice which soon afterwards fell into disuse. The writing is done with a straight pen.

Individual letters. *c* is clearly distinguished from *t*. *b*, *d*, *l*, and *h* have tall stems slightly notched at the top. Initial *B* has both the capital and uncial forms; the uncial type of *d* is once employed. The tailed *e* is still used for *æ*. *g* is both closed and open (l. 10). *i* is not accented even when doubled (l. 2), and initial *j* does not appear. *m* and *n* are quite distinct. Both forms of *r* are found (l. 2), but only one form of *s* except in the capitals; *v* in the same way only occurs as a capital.

Abbreviations. The stroke over the vowel representing *m* is curved and indistinguishable from the mere mark of contraction. *Et* is represented both by the ampersand and the Tironian sign. *prae* is written with a superior *a* above the usual book-hand abbreviation. The other signs employed are those for *-um* and *-us*.

The **ligatures** *ct* and *st* occur, *ct* having the characteristic early form.

Notum sit presentibus et futuris. quod ego Heinricvs [Rex Ang]lorum concedo deo et sanctis apostolis Petro et Paulo ad / locum sancti Pancratii pro anima patris mei et matris. et pro [sal]ute anime mee et uxoris mee Matildis ac filii mei Willelmi. / donationem quam Willelmus de Warenna comes suthregie sancto Pancratio dedit. Scilicet ecclesiam de Bristelmestuna. / et ecclesiam de Hangeltuna. et ecclesiam de cleituna. et capell[am de] kiemela. et ecclesiam de bercam. et ecclesiam de erdingelega. / et xl^{ta} solidatas terre de illa soca de gelingeham pro decima denariorum

de placitis suis. et decimam feni sui. et molen/dinum unum apud mecing[a]s cum quattuor a[cr]is. et dimidiam hidam terre in bristelmestuna. et rusticum unum / nomine brihmerum cu[m] terra illa quam tenebat de Radulfo filio Warini. et terram quam Willelmus de grinnosa / uilla tenebat de predicto comite in ercheham. et decem solidatas terre et octo denariatas quas hugo de grin/nosa uilla dedit sancto PANCRATIO in catestona pro decimis terre sue. Testibus Randulfo cancellario. + Ricardo de capella. / Everardo filii Roggeri comitis + Johanni de baioco. + et Grimbaldo medico. + Henrico de albiniaco. + et Rodberto de . . . / Rodberto de Gomeri. + Willelmo de petroponto. Ricardo lupello.

PLATE II, B

P. R. O. Royal Charters (Duchy of Lancaster), No. 6.

A. D. 1121. 10 April — 29 May.

[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Soc.), No. 6.]

Charter hand showing the transition to Court-hand. The writing is more free than in the other example, and the long letters show a tendency to an *S* curve. The notched tops are prominent, and the right-hand limbs being longer tend to develop into the later beaks. The letters are written with a slanted pen.

Individual letters. *A* varies between a capital and an uncial type. *c* is carefully distinguished from *t*. *d* is always of the uncial type. The tailed *e* represents *æ*. The lower bow of *g* is brought forward and closed by a fine diagonal up-stroke which is not always completed. *i*, *m*, *n* and *u* are carefully distinguished, and *ii* is accented (l. 5). Both forms of *r* are used, but only the long form of *s*. *v* is occasionally but not regularly used for initial *u*. There is no distinction between initial and medial *w*, both being majuscule.

Abbreviations. The ordinary sign of contraction is a diagonal straight line. We find also the hook for *-us* (l. 3), but *post* in the same line is written with a superior *o*. The crook for *-er* (l. 9) and *-ar* (l. 2) is also used as a mere mark of contraction (l. 14). *Et* is the Tironian sign, and the semicolon form is used only for *-ue* and *-us*.

Ligatures. *ct* (ll. 7, 8) and *st* (ll. 4, 14).

Punctuation. The period is used alike for short and long pauses, but the end of a long clause is marked by the reversed semicolon (ll. 2 and 14).

A **hyphen** at the end of l. 11.

PLATE II, c

P.R.O. Ancient Deeds, A 1050.

A.D. 1135–53.

This charter shows a marked approach to developed Court-hand forms. The writing is almost current, especially in combinations of *i*, *m*, and *n*. The long letters begin to show a marked curvature, bending to the right above the line and to the left below it. The tops of the tall letters though still notched incline towards the later beaked form.

Individual letters. The long headed *a* occurs as an initial: once even it is written without raising the pen (*Anglis* l. 2). For the other form see *Apud* (last line). Only the round form of *d* is used and the head is looped, the letter being made in one piece. The tailed *e* for *æ* has disappeared. *g* is made in two pieces resembling the Saxon *g* with an added *o* and the lower bow is closed. Double *i* is accented and the second *i* brought below the line. Capital *l* is distinguished only by a slight crook at the foot. *n* is fairly distinguishable from *u*. *q* has a lower loop. The curved *r* does not occur even after *o*, nor does the short form of *s* except as a capital. Note the curious S at the beginning. The uncial initial T is not used. *v* is regularly used for *u* initial.

Abbreviations. The common sign of abbreviation is a curved line, both over small letters and through tall ones. *per* and *pro* are the usual signs: but *pre* is still expressed, as in book-hand, by a line over the *p* (*predicti* l. 6). The Tironian sign is employed for *et* and the hook for *-us*.

Ligatures are used for *ct* (l. 6) and *st*, and in one or two cases *d* and *e* are closely joined (ll. 2, 3). The only sign of **punctuation** is the point both for short and long pauses. No **hyphens** are used.

Stephanus. Rex Anglorum. Episcopo Londoniensi. Justiciario. et vicecomiti. et Baronibus. et Ministris. et / Omnibus fidelibus suis francis et Anglis de Hertfordscira. salutem. Sciatis me / dedisse et concessisse Deo et Canonicis de Sancta Trinitate Londoniarum pro animabus / Mathildis filie mee et Balduini filii mei .C. solidatas terre in Brachingis. / Quare volo et firmiter precipio quod Ecclesia Sancte Trinitatis et Canonici / predicti teneant et in perpetuum possideant illas .C. solidatas terre bene et / in Pace et libere et quiete et honorifice. cum Omnibus rebus eisdem perti/nentibus. et cum Saca et Socna et Toll. et Theam et Infangenetheof / et cum Omnibus libertatibus et consuetudinibus cum quibus Ego et Mathildis Re/gina uxor mea melius et liberius tenuimus dum in manu nostra fuit. / testibus. Mathilde. Regina mea. et. Eustachio. filio meo. et Willelmo. de Ipra. et / .Willelmo. Martel. et Ricardo de Luci. et Ricardo de Canvilla. et Warnerio de / Lusoriis. Apud Londonias.

PLATE II, D

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A 1051.
A. D. 1135–53.

This charter, probably of the same date as the accompanying document, is less advanced in character. The curvature of the long letters is similar, but the notching of the tops is more marked. The tailed *e* for *æ* has not yet been displaced.

Individual letters. These are similar to those in the other charter though more careful in style. The head of rounded *d* is not looped and the straight *d* is also found (*concedere* l. 3). The tailed *e*, for *æ*, and *e* are once exchanged (*terre, quietæ* l. 7; note also the spelling *æcclesia* l. 6). The tail of *g* is open. The curved *r* is used after *o* (*honorifice* l. 7). *t* is not yet replaced by *c* in the combination *tio* (*donationem* l. 3). *u* initial occurs (*uolo* l. 5).

Abbreviations. The common sign is either a diagonal or a horizontal stroke, the latter being also employed for *m* or *n*. A curved stroke through the tall letters is used, especially for *-er*. The horizontal line is used both for *pre* and *con* (cf. *pre* in the last plate). Both the curl over the line and ȝ are used for *-us*.

Ligatures. Both *ct* and *st* occur (ll. 1 and 6). The period is the only sign of **punctuation.**

Matildis. dei gratia Regina Anglorum. episcopo Lundoniensi. Justiciario. et vicecomiti. et Baronibus. et Ministris / et omnibus fidelibus suis francis et Anglis de Hertfordscira salutem. Sciatis me / concedere et confirmare donationem Regis quam fecit deo et canonicis Sancte Trinitatis / Lundoniarum pro animabus. Matildis filie mee. et Balduini filii mei qui in prefata ecclesia / sepulti sunt. scilicet de .C. solidatis terre in Brachingis. Quare uolo et firmiter / precipio ut ecclesia Sancte Trinitatis lundoniarum et canonici predicti teneant et in perpetuum / possideant illas .C. solidatas terre bene et in pace. et libere. et quiete. et honorifice / cum omnibus rebus et libertatibus eisdem pertinentibus sicut rex concessit et confirmavit / per cartam suam. Testibus Eustachio filio Regis. et Willelmo de ipra. et Ricardo de Luci. / et Warnerio de Lisoriis.

PLATE III

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. Lewes Charters, p. 1.
A. D. 1121.

The writing of this charter may be compared with that of Plate VI which it resembles in its ecclesiastical character, the scheme of formation of the long letters, and its suggestions of foreign influence. The

ornamental capitals do not appear and the tall letters show no sign of notching: on the other hand their length is even more noticeable than in Plate VI, and the *f* and *s* have a flourish at the top. The use of capitals is sparing (note the proper names, l. 8), but *N* and *R* sometimes appear in the middle of the word. The majuscules are of mixed capital and uncial types.

Individual letters. *a* has a short head (but note the two extreme types in *auctoritate* l. 6); the tailed *e* for *æ* is common and even appears unnecessarily (*æcclesiis* l. 2; note also *cæteri* l. 26); the open-topped superior *a* is found (l. 17). The uncial or round *d* no longer appears. The round capital *E* in l. 31 is noteworthy. *g* is finished with a flat stroke at the top and a pronounced loop below. *h* is prolonged a little below the line and is generally quite distinct from *b*. *i* is used in the short form for both initials (even in proper names) and finals, but the long *j* also appears for initials: *i* is found as a superior letter; *ii* are accented. The final stroke of *m* is occasionally curled below the line for its use as a capital (*Marie* l. 8; cf. Plate IV A). *n* is distinguished from *u* with particular care. Superior *o* appears in *quoque* l. 12. *P* has a curious flat stroke at the bottom (l. 1), but *p* is generally used for the capital. *Q* is generally of the *2* type (l. 8); but a curious form like a reversed *P* occurs in *Quapropter* (l. 4). *r* is occasionally produced below the line, apparently as an afterthought (*cantuariensis archiepiscopus* l. 1): the round form occurs in *benefactoribus* (l. 33). *s* is always the long form. *t* is not prolonged much beyond the cross, except after *s*, but is always clearly distinguishable from *c*. *V* does not occur at all.

Abbreviations. The most usual is an upward curve through long letters, and for *m* and in other cases a knot; but something like the lightning-flash also occurs (*solidatas* l. 29). The *-us* abbreviation is frequent; we have also the sign for *pro* and for *-rum* (l. 4 in a very ornate form); and there is the sign ÷ for *est* and the ; for *-us* and *-ue*: *-us* is also represented by the 3 form in *duabus* (l. 12). *Et* is represented by both the Tironian sign and the ampersand; a curious capital form of the latter occurs in l. 7. Note the curious contractions for *igitur* (l. 2), and for the *-ur* of *dicitur* (l. 6), and the book-hand *epc* for *episcopus* (l. 1). The **spelling** *utranque* (l. 22) is unusual.

Ligatures. *ct* appears in this writing as well as *st*, both being an adaptation of the flourish at the top of long letters.

Stops. The point is used both for a pause and for the full stop: the reversed semicolon occurs also (l. 4), apparently, as in Plate II B, to terminate a long clause.

Radulfus dei gratia cantuariensis archiepiscopus. et totius britannie primas. omnibus in christo filiis presentibus et futuris in perpetuum. Pie sollici/tudinis est et domino placitum. ecclesiis pacem prouidere. et religiosorum quietem protegendo seruare.

Pro nostra igitur pastoralis cura officii. latisaquense mo/nasterium. in honore beati paNcRatii martiris consecratum. quod est cluniacensis cenobii proprium. et paterno affectu diligimus. et religionis gratiam que / in eo a tempore predecessorum et dominorum meorum lanfranci et anselmi archiepiscoporum ad nostra usque tempora profecit; plurimum amplexamur; Quapropter / tam ipsum monasterium in episcopatu cicestrensi situm. quam et ea que possidet episcopali benedictione firmamus. et pia petitione filii nostri HuGo/nis ipsius loci prioris. nostri auctoritate priuilegii roboramus. Habet enim prefatum monasterium in episcopatu cicestrensi terram que dicitur suthoure / cum burgo et duobus stagnis et tribus molendinis. cum insula que proxima est ipsi monasterio cum pratis. Et in castro iuxta se posito habet ecclesias et capellas. / uidelicet Sancti iohannis. et Sancti petRi. et Sancte trinitatis. et Sancti nicholai. et Sancti andree et beate MaRie. et Sancti martini. et Sancte marie de westota. Quarum illam que dicitur Sancti / iohannis cum capella in cimiterio sancti paNcRatii sita. ex dono uenerabilis fratris nostri Radulfi cicestrensis episcopi libere et quiete possidet. Et terram que dicitur / swanberga cum capella. et duo molendina apud mechingas cum ecclesia. et falemeram cum ecclesia. et burgameram cum capella. et molecumbam. et possessionem in wistendena / et terram que dicitur piceleswia. et terram in aldrinchtona. et in bristelmestuna cum ecclesia. et terram in chingestona. et in blacinctona cum capella. et terram in alinctona / et in dicelingis cum ecclesia et duabus capellis. terram quoque de bradeherst et de ulfeole. et de beluidere cum capellis. et terram in orsteda cum capella. et langamam et achincto/nam. cum galeto et capella. et terram in dodinctona et in thornh. et decimam de prestetona. et terram apud Herbertingas .x^{cem}. et viii^{to}. acras cum pastura .c. ouium in orthlaues/wica. et ecclesiam de ifordo. et capellas de redmella. et de northesa. et ecclesiam de rotingesdena. et de claetona. et de chimela. et de cucufelda. et de balecumba. et de her/dingheleia. et de grenesteda. et de hangeltona. et de hadlega. et de pellincis. et inwicha. et de bercham. et de waldrena. et de bergham. et de gretheam. et de helingeam. / et de suthona. et de louentona. et de stoctona. et de meretona. et de tangamera. et apud grafam decimam terre rogeri de caisneto. et uirgatam terre cum uno rustico. / apud brembram salinas .iiii^{or}. quas dedit phil[i]ppus de braiosa. et ibidem .i. salinam quam de[di]t radulfus de grenesteda. et ecclesiam de clinctona. cum his que rogerius de sancto / iohanne ibidem dedit. Apud lundoniam dimidium capelle sancti botulfi. et domos et terras cum ea libertate quam dominus noster rex henricus ibidem sancto paNcRatio dedit.

Apud Essedo/nam gaufredi bainardi .xl^{ta}. iiii^{or}. acras terre et tres pratorum. et[1] decem silue. et .i. quercum. et pastionem .x. porcorum. Apud estunam carruatam terre et .i. rusticum. Apud Strathford .i. mansi/onem ex dono reuerendi fratris nostri Ricardi lundoniensis episcopi. Apud princiduelam monasterium Sancte MaRie et quicquid ibidem dedit monacis cluniacensibus sub sancto paNcratio robertus / sweni filius. Apud stanagatam monasterium sancte MaRie magdalene cum omnibus que ibi dedit Sancto paNcratio per manum domini nostri regis anglorum henrici. radulfus brieni filius. / Apud utranque canefeldam et apud essendonam ecclesias cum terris. In episcopatu wintoniensi. habet ecclesiam de gatetuna. et que ibidem dedit herfredus. et in eodem loco di/midiam uirgatam terre quam dedit Oddo de donmartini. et ecclesiam de suthwerca. In episcopatu saresberiensi habet ecclesiam de winterburna. et de bissoppestreu. apud mapeldre/am .i. hidam de manu. R. et in melesberia hidam et dimidiam. In episcopatu exoniensi habet ecclesias de hertesberie. de brai. de betesdenna. de brugia. In episcopatu / lincoliensi habet ecclesias de fachestuna. et de meltuna cum terris. In eliensi. carlentonam et wilingeam cum ecclesiis. In wella .xl. solidos. In norwicensi. monasterium Sancte MaRie de accara / et quicquid ibidem willelmus de warenna et ceteri fideles monacis cluniacensibus dederunt. apud tethfordum duas capellas. et terram in santona et ecclesiam Sancte helene cum terra. et terram de resinges cum ecclesia / et dimidium waltone cum dimidia ecclesia. et dimidium de animera cum dimidia ecclesia. et terram in terintona. et terram de cungheam. de qua sol[uit] azor. iii. marcas. et herceam cum / ecclesia, et que ad eam et ad manerium pertinent [ ] gemingheam[2] .xl^{ta}. solidatas terre. et terram in catestuna. et in mertuna .lx^{ta}. acras terre. in m . . eburna. xii. solidatas terre. et in dodi/laictuna .x. solidatas. et dimidium walpole cum dimidia ecclesia. et medietate[3] molendinorum eiusdem soce. ecclesias quoque de mertuna. et de bruneam. et de herpelai. et i.[4] in incheburna / et dimidiam in falwella. et .i. et dimidiam in ristuna. et .i. in luna. ecclesias quoque de wiltona et gemingheam. In episcopatu eboracensi. ecclesias de wachefelda et decuningesburch[5] et que ad / eas pertinent. Ego ipse do eidem monasterio mansionem in caresleia cum terra libera et quieta. et ecclesiam de burestou. Confirmo etiam et laudo quecunque eidem

[1] The sign for *et* and the *d* of *decem* are crowded together.
[2] The second *e* has been changed to *i*.
[3] The second *e* has been inserted between *i* and *t* after the word was written.
[4] The *i* is rather like a second *et*.
[5] Two words run together.

monasterio donata / sint et concessa a dominis nostris regibus willelmo primo et willelmo secundo et henrico. et a comitibus suthregie willelmo primo et willelmo secundo deuotis ipsius monasterii fundatoribus. qui omnia / que Sancto paNcratio dederunt. ita libere et absolute dederunt. sicut melius ipsi tenuerunt. Hec et quecunque a ceteris benefactoribus eidem monasterio collata sunt et nos confirmando / donamus. et ne ulla potestas quelibet ue persona auferre uel minuere presumat. ex parte summi iudicis interdicimus. Qui autem presumpserit nisi[1] emendando satisfecerit. corripi/at eum uindicta domini. Pax benefactoribus. Gratia conseruatoribus. Benedictio deo seruientibus. + Ego Radulfus cantuariensis archiepiscopus dedi et subscripsi. +/

Data mellingis per manum iohannis cancellarii et archidiaconi. Anno uerbi incarnati. M°. C°. xx°. i. Papa romanorum calixto. ii°. Rege anglorum Henrico. /

PLATE IV, A

P. R. O. Pipe Roll (Exchequer, L. T. R.), No. 1, ro. 6.

A. D. 1130.

[Printed by the Rev. Joseph Hunter for the Record Commission, '*Magnum Rotulum Scaccarii . . . de anno* 31 *Henrici I*'. London, 1833, p. 52.]

This is the only known example of the formed Exchequer-hand of the reign of Henry I. The writing shows some tendency to the later Court-hand style, especially in the curved forms of the longer letters, the notched heads of which are already developing into beaks. The heading and the first two words are in capitals, including, however, an *E* of an enlarged minuscule form. These rolls were usually written out in blank from the roll of the previous year and completed in Court, but the process is not so clearly evident in this example as in later ones. Erasures were prohibited, but the present document shows two (ll. 3 and 11). The writing, which is done with a slanted pen, is comparable with that of the larger volume of Domesday Book, which is very possibly of almost the same date.

Individual letters. *a* usually has a head, but the headless form also occurs (*erga* l. 17). A majuscule *Æ* occurs twice (ll. 8, 9), a late example of this form. *d* is always round. The tailed *e* is used for *æ* both in minuscule and majuscule forms (*Æcclesiæ* l. 7; cf. above, Plates II D and III). The capital type of majuscule *E* is rare after this date; it is usually employed in Domesday Book. Notice the broken-backed *f*s (*firma* l. 3, *Æinesford* l. 9). *g* has the characteristic forward bend, and the lower bow is closed by a thin oblique line. The bow of *h* comes slightly below

[1] *Nisi* and *emendando* are run together.

the line. The dotted numeral *i* in l. 2 may perhaps be a later addition; if not, it is unusual. *K* has not yet taken the place of *ch* (*chiuilli* l. 21). Note the persistence of majuscule *N* (*in* passim) and the curious form of *Q*—also common in Domesday Book. *r* comes well below the line; the rounded form does not occur even after *o*. Only the long *s* is employed. The top of *T* curls up sharply to the right (again a Domesday form). The majuscule *U* in l. 21 is due to a correction. *V* is the usual form: in the minuscule we find initial *u* in l. 14 (*ut*).

Abbreviations. The common sign of an abbreviation is an oblique stroke more or less curved: the sign for *-er* being also used to indicate suspensions and even contractions (*numero* l. 4). Superior *a* is, as usual, open. The usual signs are used for *per* and *pro*, and the Tironian symbol for *et*. The semicolon is used for *-us* and *-et* (*set* l. 7).

Ligatures are employed for *st* and *nt*, in the latter of which the majuscule forms survive.

Punctuation is usually effected by the period, but the semicolon also occurs (l. 9).

Traces will be seen of vertical and horizontal **ruling**.

Detailed Notes.

l. 2. *membrana prima*, the roll consisting of two membranes.

l. 6. *warpenna*, ward-penny.

l. 11. *reddit compotum* has been substituted for *debet*, the final *b* being erased. *Gersoma*, a fine paid for having the lease of the counties.

l. 13. *dextrarius*, a war-horse.

l. 21. *Uxore*: the *U* has been altered from an *H* originally written.

PLATE IV, B

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. Lewes Charters, p. 23.

A. D. 1147.

The writing of this specimen is of a book-hand type with little or no trace of development to Court-hand. It is not unlike some of the hands in Domesday Book. The heads and tails of the letters are short, and the writing rounded and regular, not current. It is written with a straight pen.

Individual letters. *a* is usually written with a head, but the short type also occurs (*alteram* l. 3). Both forms of *d* are used. The tailed *e* is used for *æ*. The tails of *f* and *s* only just come below the line, that of *g* is sometimes open, sometimes fully closed (*euangelistæ* l. 7). The bow of *h*, except when capital, is not produced below the line. Double *i* is accented, but the second *i* is not lengthened. *m*, *n*, and *u* are clearly distinguished. The curved *r* is used after *o*. Final *s* is occasionally short (*Johannes* l. 1, *Willelmus* l. 9). *v* is only used as a numeral. *y* is not used for *i*. Notice *z* (*pleiz* l. 9).

Abbreviations. The general sign of abbreviation is a curved line. The curl is used for *-us* and with *p* for *post.* The sign like a 7 is for *-er*, but is also used as a mere abbreviation (*Chaisneto* l. 10). The superior *a* as usual preserves the open-topped form. *r* above the line for *-ur* (l. 9). 3 is used for *-us* and *-ue* (l. 5). Observe the abbreviations for *quam* (ll. 1, 2), *uero* (l. 5), and *hec* (ll. 1, 7). *ē* for *est* has a full stop after it. The Tironian sign is used for *et.*

The point and the semicolon are the signs of **punctuation.**

The **ligatures** are *st* and *ct.*

The parchment shows traces of **ruling.**

CIROGRAPHUM

Hec est conuentio inter monachos de sancto Pancratio et Johannem de Chaisneto. scilicet postquam ipse Johannes dederat monachis illis / in libera elemosina dimidiam terram suam de Bristelmestona quam pater suus Radulphus tenebat eo die quo fuit uiuus et mortuus ; / concessit eisdem monachis alteram medietatem terre illius ad tenendum .vii. annis libere et quiete pro censu illius terre. scilicet pro .lx. / marcis argenti. quas monachi dederunt ei ante pro necessitate sua. et ipse Johannes adquietabit monachis illam terram de suo proprio / uersus omnes homines de omnibus rebus usque ad predictum terminum. Interim uero monachi habebunt in illa terra. quicquid ipse Johannes / haberet in ea; si sibi retinuisset illam. Et hanc conuentionem affidauit predictus Johannes ad tenendum. Facta est. autem / hec conuentio anno ab incarnatione domini m.c.xlvii. Data die festo sancti festo sancti [*sic*] Marci euangeliste. Hec sunt instauramenta / .v. acre et dimidia seminate de frumento. et .vi. acre et dimidia de ordeo. et .ii. acre. et .i. roda de auena. Hii sunt testes. / Hugo de perrepunt. Rodbertus de frieuilla. Radulphus de pleiz. Drogo de frieuilla. Willelmus de perrepunt. Wido de Mercecurt. et Willelmus / filius eius. Edwardus presbyter de hammes. Rodbertus de Chaisneto. Rogerus de sancto Victore. Radulphus de muntdisdier. Hugo filius Ricardi.

PLATE V, A

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. Lewes Charters, p. 27.

[A. D. 1147?]

This deed is probably of the same date as the preceding and written by the same scribe. The spelling of certain words is remarkable, e.g. *Matctilda* and *humagio.* This document differs little from the other in individual letters except that one accented *i* occurs

(*Leuiuam* l. 9) and the second *i* of *ii* final is lengthened (*dominii* l. 6). As a mark of **abbreviation** the oblique dash occurs twice (*West* l. 7, *Wildebroc* l. 10). In **punctuation** the semicolon is used as well as the period, and the ancient **ligature** for *nt* (rare in this century) occurs (l. 6) as well as the usual *ct.*

Sciant presentes et futuri. quod ego Johannes de Chaisneto dono deo et sancto Pancratio. et monachis ibidem deo servien/tibus ; in libera elemosina pro salute anime mee. et pro animabus patris et matris mee. et omnium parentum meorum ; dimidiam terram[1] quam / pater meus Radulfus habuit in Bristelmestona eo die quo ipse fuit uiuus et mortuus ; cum omnibus hominibus ad ipsam terram / pertinentibus. et cum aliis pertinentiis suis. scilicet .v. uirgatas terre assisas de hominibus istis ; Iuone. Matctilda. Alurico / palmario. Salida. et Matctilda matre ipsius Salide. Et .iiii. Cottarios ; cum terris quas tenent. uidelicet Edwardum. / Martinum. Vlfwinum filium eadsi. et Saiuam uiduam. Et dimidium dominii mei in eadem uilla sic partiti ; ut monachi habeaNT / subteriorem acram et propinquiorem mari in West de grancia. cum aliis acris que ad illam acram diuise fuerunt in particione. / et cum pastura ad eandem terram pertinente. et cum dimidio humagio Chetelli in ipso dominio manentis. Dono etiam illis filium / ipsius Chetelli Aldwinum. et filiam eius Leuiuam ; omnino liberos. Insuper dono illis quoddam pratum iuxta hammes ; quod / uocatur Wildebroc. Hanc supradictam donationem ego Johannes de Chaisneto adquietabo monachis de meo proprio uersus comitem / et omnes homines de omnibus rebus. Et ut hec donatio esset firma et libera et quieta inperpetuum ; prior et conuentus dederunt mihi .c. marcas argenti./ ad releuandam terram uersus dominum meum comitem de Warenna. Testibus Rogero capellano. Hugone de petreponte. Rodberto de Wes/neual. Rodberto de petreponte. Rodberto de frieuilla. Rodberto filio suo. Drogone fratre eius. Gwidone vicecomite. Willelmo filio suo. / Willelmo de petreponte. Willelmo conestabulario. Petro luuello. Rogero de clera. Edwino presbytero de hammes. Rogero de sancto victore. / Rodberto fratre Johannis. Radulfo de mundisdier.

[1] The *r* is concealed by a fold in the parchment.

PLATE V, B

P. R. O. Exchequer, L. T. R. Pipe Roll 2, m. 2.

A. D. 1156.

[Printed by the Rev. Joseph Hunter, *Great Rolls of the Pipe.* London, 1844, p. 10.]

A portion of the account of the Sheriff of Surrey. He accounts first of all for the 'farm' of the county, i. e. the total sum for which he is answerable on account of the Crown manors and the ordinary profits of jurisdiction. Against this he sets what he has paid out on account of the Crown, and what he has not received on account of the grant by the Crown of certain manors to private persons. On line 16 begin the separate accounts for casual profits and Crown debts. The writing is slightly angular and shows some approach to a Court-hand character, some of the longer letters being curved to the right at the top and to the left below. The large letters are partly of majuscule and partly of minuscule forms. The pen is slightly slanted.

Individual letters. *a* usually has a short head. *d* is invariably of the rounded type. The tailed *e* is twice used for *æ* (ll. 11, 15). The lower bow of *g* is almost closed. *i* final is only once produced below the line (l. 10) except in numerals. The use of the capital form in *In* should be noticed, as of that of *r*, ll. 2 and 15 (*Huntendonsciræ*). The ordinary form is brought below the line; the round form does not occur. Final *s* is sometimes short (*Sthephanus* l. 16). The form *v* is used as an initial and *u* medial.

Abbreviations. Suspensions and contractions are indicated by a slightly curved stroke, while the usual sign for *-er* is also employed for suspensions. The semicolon is used for *-us* in *-bus* (l. 3) and the curl over the line in other cases. *Per* and *pro* have their usual forms.

St is the only **ligature.**

The only mark of **punctuation** is the period.

Traces of **ruling** will be observed.

Detailed notes.

l. 1. *m. 1ª.* = *membrana prima,* the roll consisting of two membranes sewed together: the closed superior *a* perhaps indicates a later date.

l. 2. *vicecomes,* i. e. the sheriff.

l. 7. *numero,* by tale, as opposed to *ad pensum* (by weight) and *blancas* (by weight of assayed silver).

l. 8. *E,* probably a mistake; the scribe, by force of habit, has begun to write *Et est quietus.*

l. 10. *Corredium,* a pension.

l. 14. *Solta,* i. e. *solute.* Cash payments. The recipient has had his Danegeld repaid him.

l. 15. *Superplus,* balance due to the accountant, allowed to him on his account as sheriff of another county.

l. 16. *girfalco*, a ger-falcon or Norway hawk. *breve*, a writ. Stephen produces the king's receipt.

l. 18. *debed*: apparently for *debet*: not a very common misspelling in these rolls. The usual abbreviation is *deb'*. *Assisa*, a general levy on the county.

l. 20. *murdrum*, a fine payable by the hundred in cases where a murder or suspected murder takes place in it.

PLATE VI

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, C. 6412.
[12th century.]

This document (of which the top third is omitted) appears to be a copy of the deeds of the foundation of Barnstaple priory by Juel of Totnes and the confirmation of the same by William bishop of Exeter, sent to Rome for the Pope's confirmation. The attestation clauses on the fold are almost illegible. It is written in an ornamental minuscule of a definitely ecclesiastical type showing signs of foreign influence and resembling the contemporary documents of the Imperial and Papal Chanceries. The tops of the tall letters are somewhat long, straight or slightly inclined to the right, the tails being shorter and curved markedly to the left. *f* and *s* have ornamental heads. The common mark of contraction is a sort of knot in place of the usual oblique stroke. The capitals are also more ornamental than usual. The pen is slightly slanted.

Individual letters. The head of *a* is frequently very short and sometimes indistinguishable from the bow (e.g. *emendationem* l. 1). *b*, *h* and *l* all have the usual notched heads. *c* is generally rounder than *t*, but in a few cases it is difficult to say which letter is meant (e.g. *legaliter* l. 15). Only the uncial form of small *d* is used, while the capital has a curious broken back. The tailed *e* has disappeared and an elongated minuscule *e* is employed as a capital. The lower bow of *g* is open. The bow of *h* comes below the line, having a short tail. Double *i* is accented, the second *i* having a tail. Single *i* is once dotted (*Donauit* l. 12). Initial *m* is frequently uncial, especially in places where a capital might be expected. *n* is clearly distinguished from *u*. *r* is not produced below the line; after *o* the curved form is employed. The short form of *s* is used at the end of a word, the tail being produced below the line, the long form sometimes takes its place (e.g. *meis* l. 4). *v* is occasionally substituted for initial *u* (*usus* l. 19). Initial and medial *w* have the same form (*Godwino* l. 6). *y* does not occur, but the unusual letters *z* (ll. 7 and 23) and the rune *p*=*w* (l. 13) should be observed.

Abbreviations. Simple contraction is expressed by a straight stroke through the stems of the tall letters, and a knot over the short ones: in ll. 12, 13, the knot is used with a tall letter. *d* final is abbreviated by a sign commonly used for *-er*. The usual abbreviations for *-rum* and *que* also occur, and the *p* for *pro* (l. 19). *Et* is the Tironian sign, in one case crossed through (l. 19).

Ligatures. *St* is the only ligature. The influence of the lost *ct* is shown in the shape of *t* after *c*.

Punctuation. A dot on the line serves for a full stop or for a slight pause. The reversed semicolon marks the termination of long clauses.

An oblique dash is used as a **hyphen** (ll. 11, 16, 18, 19, 20).

Omnibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit ; Willelmus dei gratia exoniensis episcopus ; salutem in domino. Nouerit uniuersitas uestra quod nobilis uir Joel filius aluredi. pro salute anime sue. et patris sui. et Matris sue. et omnium parentum et amicorum / suorum constituit quamdam obedienciam monachorum cluniacensium apud Barnestapulam. ad honorem dei et domini nostri ihesu christi. sancteque Marie et sanctorum apostolorum Petri et Pauli. et sancte Marie magdalene. et ipsam Obedienciam Ecclesie sancti petri de Cluniaco et / Ecclesie sancti Martini de campis ; subdidit. 10
Ad quam diuina prouidente clemencia. deuotus confugere. et in ea habitum monastice religionis suscipere. disposuit. Et quia ex uoto tenetur Ecclesie sancte Marie magdalene. extra castellum / suum de Barnestapula fundate. tantum beneficii conferre. unde sacer monachorum conuentus constitui et sustentari possit ; ad sustentationem ipsorum ; quasdam particulas terre sue donauit eis. scilicet Piltonam cum bosco et marisco. et Pillan/dam. utrasque liberas et quietas cum omnibus appendiciis suis. sicud ipse unquam eas liberius et quiecius habuit et tenuit. Donauit eciam eis. Molendinum de Barnestapula liberum et quietum. cum moltura tocius uille et castelli. Ita quod / burgenses ad aliud molendinum. molendino monachorum integro existente ; molere non poterunt. Et totam terram extra muros que est inter portam de North. et portam de West. simul cum fosso ; usque ad contiguam viam. Et totam / aquam. prout terra eorum extenditur. Et totum tractum piscium ipsius aque. tam in terra monachorum quam in terra sua proxima. Ipsis quoque monachis concessit exclusam piscarie in terra sua firmare. in quantum terra eorum extenditur / ex altera parte aque. 15
Insuper autem concessit ipsis monachis. ut omnes terras suas. et homines. et possessiones. et Elemosinas quas habent. uel in posterum jure ac legaliter adquirere poterunt ; infra fines tocius terre ipsius. et feudi sui. / habeant. et teneant. solutas. liberas. et quietas. ab omnibus exactionibus. Hundredis. placitis. querelis. et omni seruicio. et opere seruili. et omnibus consuetudinibus que excogitari poterunt. Siquid uero forefacti uel querele. inter homi/nes prefati Joelis. et homines Monachorum inciderit ; Monachi plenarie de qualibet causa. curiam suam et iusticiam habebunt propriam. et emendationem. Et quia memoratus Joel. hec predicta. prefatorum Monachorum sustentationi minime / sufficere estimauit ; diuini

amoris instinctu. totam ecclesiam sancti Petri de Barnestapula. cum omnibus pertinenciis suis. Capellis. Decimis. obuentionibus et omnimodis fructibus. et cum Capella sancti saluii. et Oblat[i]onibus suis. per ma/num nostram. et per assensum nostrum. in proprios vsus Monachorum habendam. et in perpetuam Elemosinam possidendam. donauit. et iure proprietatis transactauit. Contulit eciam ipse Joel sepedictis monachis Ecclesiam de taustoca cum perti/nenciis suis. et duas partes decime de dominio suo de fremigton. et totam decimam piscium. Que omnia sepedictis Monachis donauit. et sigillo suo confirmauit. Ita quod in eos nec sibi nec alicui ex heredibus suis. aliquid uiolente potes/tatis exercere licebit; nisi tantum modo contra aduersancium molestias; defensionis auxilium. Quod ne tractu temporis uel malignancium uersuciis in dubium reuocetur; Ego sicud diocesianus episcopus ad petitionem iamdicti Joelis / presenti sc[r]ipto. et sigilli mei appositione ipsis Monachis concessi. et confirmaui. Hiis testibus. Ascelmo archidiacono. Osberto capellano Episcopi. Herueo capellano episcopi. Ailrico decano. Godwino sacerdote exonie. Willelmo de Fremigtona. Ex parte / militum; Willelmo de Ralega. Willelmo de cuuert. Aluredo filio Nigelli. Radulpho de cruna. Aluredo de zeoing. Malgero de sancto albino. Waltero de sancto Albino. Rogerio poier.

PLATE VII, A

P. R. O. Royal Charters (Duchy of Lancaster), No. 26.

A. D. 1164–5.

[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Society), p. 66.]

The handwriting is an early form of English Court-hand: it is already almost current, and quite distinct in character from contemporary book-hands. Notice particularly the uniform slope of the beaks and tails of the letters which extend above and below the line. The tall letters incline to become beaked rather than notched, and the writing in general is quite free and written with a slanted pen.

Individual letters. *a* has sometimes a large head. *b* is occasionally so much sloped as to risk confusion with *v* (*comitibus* l. 1, *omnibus* l. 2). The tailed *e* for *ae* has disappeared (*que* l. 4). *f* and *s* do not always come below the line (*fidelibus, concessisse* l. 2). *g* has a pronounced diagonal down-stroke to which the lower loop is attached: *ii* are accented (l. 6). Here, as in Plate VII, B and Plate VIII, an initial *m* of the uncial type seems to be used as a semi-capital. Notice the form of capital *Q* (l. 4). *r* has usually a long tail; the round form is used after *o*. Long *s* and *f* have their heads decorated with a loop or slight flourish; for *s* final the short form is usual but not invariable (*archidiaconis* l. 8). *t* has

a very marked cross which is not passed by the stem. *u* initial does not occur, but *v* medial occurs after *Q* (l. 4) and in a proper name (*Nevilla* l. 10).

Abbreviations. The normal indication is a more or less curved line, but the sign for *-er* is also employed: in one case (*episcopis* l. 1) both seem to be used at once. *p* with the *-er* abbreviation is used for *pre*, as almost universally in later Court-hands. 3 appears in place of the semicolon for *-us*.

Punctuation. Large and small pauses are equally marked by a full stop on the line, intermediate pauses by a semicolon: note the curious reversed semicolon concluding the last line. No **hyphen** is used.

The **ligatures** employed are *ss* and *st*, and *t* in *ct* is turned back (l. 8).

Capitals are freely used for proper names and other words of importance (e.g. *nepos* l. 3, *idem* l. 5).

Henricus Rex Anglorum et Dux Normannorum et Aquitanorum et Comes Andegauorum; Archiepiscopis. Episcopis. Abbatibus. Comitibus. Baronibus. / Justiciis. Vicecomitibus. et Omnibus Ministris et Fidelibus suis; Salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse Gerua/sio de Cornehulla terram de Chalcha quam Rogerus Nepos Huberti tenuit. tenendam sibi et / heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis cum omnibus que ad terram illam pertinent. Qvare uolo et / firmiter precipio quod Idem Geruasius et heredes sui post eum habeant et teneant eandem terram cum / omnibus pertinentiis suis bene et in pace. libere et quiete. plenarie integre et honorifice. cum Socha et / Sacha. et thol. et theam. et infangenthef. et cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus suis. / Testibus. Gilleberto Londoniensi. et Jocelino Saresberiensi Episcopis. Gaufrido Cantuariensi. et Ricardo Pictauensi Archidiaconis. Roberto / Comite Legrecestrie. Willelmo de Aubeigneio Comite Arundellie. Ricardo de Luci. Rogero Comite de Clara. / Manesero Biset Dapifero. Reginaldo de Warenna. Alano de Nevilla; Apud Westmonasterium.

PLATE VII, B

P. R. O. Royal Charters (Duchy of Lancaster), No. 28.

A.D. 1163-6.

[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Society), p. 65.]

The style of this charter is more archaic than that of the preceding, a more stately effect being aimed at, as may be seen from the method of attachment of the seal and the general lengthening of the tops of the letters, which are slightly notched. The transition to Court-hand is principally shown in the general curvature of the longer letters.

Individual letters. *a* has a very long head, but *A* is usually of the headless variety. The lower bow of *g* is only closed by a faint line.

Final *i* is not produced below the line. *r* has a long tail, and the round form is not used after *o*. The short *s* is rare but sometimes occurs at the end of a word (*Willelmus* l. 11). *t* has not given place to *c* before *i*. Initial *u* occurs once (*uolo* l. 6), but no medial *v*.

The **Abbreviations** are as usual. The oblique line is the common sign of abbreviation, but the sign for *-er* is often substituted; *pre* has the *-er* form.

The **ligatures** are *ct* and *st*.

Punctuation is effected by periods for short and long pauses, with a semicolon for the intermediate stop. **Capitals** or rather majuscules are very freely used. Notice the marks of **ruling**.

Henricus. Rex Anglorum et Dux Normannorum et Aquitanorum. et Comes Andegauorum; Archiepiscopis. Episcopis. Comitibus. / Baronibus. Justiciis. Vicecomitibus. Ministris. et Omnibus fidelibus suis francis et Anglis totius Anglie; / salutem. Sciatis me concessisse et presenti Carta confirmasse Eustachio Cade / filio Willelmi Cade .x^{cem}. libratas terre in Nauenebi de feodo Rogeri Pictauensis; que sunt de / honore de Lancastre. ipsi. et heredibus suis tenendas de me et de heredibus meis. / vnde ipse fecit mihi homagium. Quare uolo et firmiter precipio quod predictus Eustachius. et / heredes sui post eum illas .x^{cem}. libratas terre habeant et teneant cum Omnibus pertinentiis / suis. in pratis et pasturis. in aquis et Molendinis. in viis. et semitis. et in Omnibus aliis / locis. et aliis rebus ad illas pertinentibus. cum Omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus / suis. ita bene. et in pace. libere. et quiete. Plenarie. et integre. et honorifice; sicut. / predictus Willelmus pater eius eas melius et liberius. et quietius tenuit aliquo tempore. Testibus. Gaufrido / Archidiacono Cantuariensi. Ricardo Archidiacono Pictauensi. Roberto. Comite Legrecestrie. Comite Gaufrido. / Ricardo de Luci. Henrico filio Geroldi Camerario. Goscelino de Baillolo. Ricardo de Canuilla. / Willelmo Malet Dapifero. Willelmo de Cainneto. Apud Westmonasterium.

PLATE VII, C

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds (Duchy of Lancaster), L. S. 49.

A. D. 1188.

[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Society), p. 90.]

The handwriting of this deed is a well developed cursive. The letters connect closely and series of *i* s, *m* s, *n* s, and *u* s are written without raising the pen. The tall letters are ceasing to be notched and already acquiring loops by which they can be joined to other letters. The large letters are ornamented and emphasized by doubling their lines. The writing of the

whole shows the double curve characteristic of the period. The pen is slanted in writing.

Individual letters. Both forms of *a* are used. *c* is distinguished from *t*. *d* now begins to be looped and the line closing the loop tends to become the heaviest in the letter: this is because it is the original head of the *d*, the upward line being due to the scribe's not raising his pen to begin the second stroke. The middle of *g* has a sharp curve to the right and the lower bow is closed. The bow of *h* comes below the line, as does the final *i*: *h* begins to be looped (l. 1) and to join on to the previous letter, so also *l* (l. 7). *i*, *m*, *n*, and *u* are scarcely distinguished. *p* has a curious open-topped form, and when provided with a tag to join the next letter is very like *r*, which has a large shoulder and is deeply forked. The short *s* with a tail well below the line is used for initials and finals. *v* does not occur.

Abbreviations. *hominibus* (l. 1) and *beati* (l. 4) are unusual contractions. Note also *postquam* (l. 5) and the change in the form of the Tironian *et.* 3 has replaced the semicolon for *-us*.

Ligatures *st* and *ct* are found. Observe also *de* (ll. 1, 2).

The **punctuation** is exclusively by full stops. One attached preposition occurs in l. 1.

NOTE.—The frontispiece to the larger volume of the present work is an enlargement from this plate. The peculiarities thus disclosed suggest some special considerations. For example, it is a very fine piece of handwriting which when enlarged, as this is, three diameters, displays such firmness and cleanness of line. Again, the currency is, as we have already suggested, and as will be seen from the notes added below, well developed along almost all the lines which marked its subsequent progress; and that at a date (1177) when the chief influences—such as the habit of enrolment in the English Chancery and even the earlier writing of Plea Rolls—were yet to come. It would be hard to find many examples so pronounced as the present one so early; but obviously before such a piece of work could be possible, there must have been in the country a large number of extremely expert scribes well practised in fast writing.

We may expect, of course, to find throughout the document an already complete confusion of *i*, *m*, *n*, and *u*; but the enlargement shows that the writer was already accustomed to making nearly all his small letters in a single action of the pen. Thus the large *a* in *amicis* (l. 1) seems to have been begun below with the bow, the pen travelling thence upwards and outwards to the left to form the large head, and then turning over to the right to come down again for the heavy straight stroke: while elsewhere, as in the second *Flammauilla* (l. 6), we have a much simpler form made with the same action as in modern script. Other single-action letters which show particularly well in the enlargement are the *h* in *hominibus* (l. 1); the *o* in the same word (very like the *c* in *secundus* l. 5); the excellent example of *p* in *suscepit* (l. 5); and the *q* of *quinque*

(l. 4). Capitals, too, show excellent examples of currency—the *D* in *Dominus* (l. 5) and the *T* of *Testibus* (l. 6).

Besides the current making of single letters we find from examination of the enlargement examples of ties between almost every kind of letter. Not only have we the ordinary ones between *n*, *u*, and *i* (*in* and the *ui* of *habui* l. 3, both looking like small *m*; *uin* in *quinque* l. 4); there are also ties made by a continuation of the most unlikely portions of letters, particularly where the scribe, who with all his currency keeps to many of the old forms with great distinctness, is forced for this reason to discard the single-action habit. The second stroke of a well-formed *c* is used thus in *suscepit* (l. 5), and in the same line the final stroke of *g* in *Anglorum* should be noticed: again, we have the second stroke of *r* carried on to form the loop of *l* in *ierosolymam* (l. 6) and the otiose head-stroke of *s* produced downwards to form the upright of *t* in *Hasting'* (l. 1). Similarly the head of the *f* s in l. 6 is produced downwards to form the cross of the letter, which is then carried on to form the loop of *l*. In his manner of writing *de* (l. 1) the scribe seems to be practising an almost deliberate rather than a natural currency; making, unnecessarily, a separate action of the second stroke of this in order that he may produce it to form the chief stroke of *e*; which in its turn has its second stroke produced to form the loop of the *h* which begins *Hasting'*—a separate word. Clearly shown examples of long series of tied letters are seen in the *omib* of *hominibus* (l. 1); in the whole of *negocio* (l. 2), with its interesting first *o*, confusible with the following *c*, and final *o* made in two strokes; and *transfretaui* and *reddere* (the last a very interesting example) in l. 3. Finally it is worth while to note how freely the scribe writes: contrast, for instance, the tie from the up-stroke of *t* to a following *i* in *legitime* (l. 3) with the connexion of the two letters by the cross-stroke of *t* in *beati* (l. 4).

The whole plate is worth careful study and should be compared with Royal Charters of the same date on the one hand and with the later current hands of the first Chancery enrolments and the Richard I Plea Roll (Plate IX A) on the other.

Henricus de Hasting' Omnibus hominibus et Amicis Suis Salutem. Sciatis quod / Henricus de Cornhella comodauit mihi quinque Marcas Argenti pro negocio / meo quando transfretaui. Et ego ei legitime in pactum habui. reddere / illi. illas quinque Marcas Argenti ad festum beati Michaelis proximum / postquam Dominus. Henricus. Rex Anglorum Secundus crucem Domini Suscepit ad eundum / ierosolymam. Testibus Hugone de Flammauilla de fritona. et Hugone de Flammauilla / filio Alani. Matheo de Charnenella. et Willelmo feregus.

PLATE VII, D

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds (Exch. Treasury of Receipt), A. 6685.
[A.D. 1186 or 1188.]
[Printed: *Ancient Charters* (Pipe Roll Society), p. 85.]

This should be compared with the similar charter written about twenty years earlier (Plate VII B), which it much resembles in general style. The tall letters are however no longer notched but beaked, though not looped; and they are not so large in proportion. The letters are all more closely set and show a little more tendency to a current hand (e.g. *largiente* l. 3, *seruientibus* l. 11). The writing also shows some increase in angularity; the small letters being narrower in proportion to their height.

Individual letters do not differ widely from those of the previous example. *f* and *s* only come a little below the line. The bend in the middle of *g* is slightly less marked, and the lower bow is not completely closed. That of *h* comes a little more below the line. Initial *i* is long, even when not written large for emphasis, double *ii* are very faintly accented and the second *i* is not produced, though final *i* sometimes is (*mei* l. 4). The uncial *m* is apparently used for emphasis as a semi-capital, and the last limb of final *m* or *n* is brought below the line. The round *r* is only used in the compendium for *-orum*. The short *s* is occasionally used, both as final (*quos* l. 2) and medial (*pascuis* l. 16). The stem of *t* tends to show above the cross. *v* initial only occurs as a semi-capital; note, however, the large *V* as the second letter of *Quare*.

Abbreviations. The special sign for *-er* and the slightly curved horizontal line are alike used as signs of suspension and contraction. Superior letters are freely used. The semicolon is used for *et* (l. 7) but not for *-us*. The *-rum* abbreviation is only used after *o*.

There are no **ligatures**. Observe the spelling *menbrum* (ll. 9, 14).

Punctuation is as usual by full stops and semicolons. The close of the document has three points placed vertically.

The parchment has been **ruled** both horizontally and vertically.

.Henricus. dei gratia Rex Anglorum et Dux Normannorum et Aquitanorum et Comes Andegauorum; Abbati et vniuerso / Capitulo Cisterciensi. et Omnibus ad quos presens Carta peruenerit; Salutem. Nouerit uniuersitas / uestra quod cum deo largiente adeptus fuerim Regnum Anglie repperi quod tempore Regis Stephani / ablatoris mei multa dispersa fuerant et a dominiis Regni alienata tum in feodis militum. / tum in Elemosinis Ecclesiarum. Inter que abbatia de Tame. Membrum quoddam Manerii mei/ Ferendonie quod uocatur Worda tenebat ex dono Inimicorum meorum. quod in integrum michi / resignauit. Set quia fuerat religiose domui quoquomodo collatum; ad petitionem imperatricis / domine et Matris mee. et Gilleberti tunc temporis abbatis Cister-

ciensis et Coabbatum suorum petitione et / assensu ; dedi predictum Menbrum Manerii mei Ferendonie Worda uocatum. modo predetermina/to ex toto michi resignatum. abbatie de Stanleia que est de fundatione prefate imperatricis / domine et Matris mee et mea. et monachis ibidem deo seruientibus cum omnibus rebus et libertatibus et / liberis consuetudinibus ad illud pertinentibus ; in liberam et puram et perpetuam Elemosinam / possidendum. Qvare uolo et firmiter precipio quod eadem abbatia de Stanleia et monachi in / ea deo seruientes predictum Menbrum Manerii mei Ferendonie Worda nomine habeant et / teneant bene et in pace. libere et quiete. Plenarie et Integre et honorifice sicut meam dominicam / Elemosinam. In bosco et in Plano. In pratis et pascuis. In Aquis et Molendinis. In Stagnis et / viuariis. et Piscariis. In viis et Semitis. et in omnibus locis et rebus cum omnibus libertatibus / et liberis consuetudinibus ad illud pertinentibus. Testibus. Hugone. Lincolniensi Episcopo. Rogero. et Ricardo. et Nicolao ;/ Capellanis meis. Hugone de Morewich. et Hugone Bardulf; Dapiferis. Radulfo filio / Stephani Camerario ; Roberto de Witefeld. Michaele Belet ; Apud Wudestocham.

PLATE VIII

P. R. O. Pipe Roll (Exchequer, L. T. R.), No. 13, m. 13.
[A. D. 1167.]
[Printed : Pipe Roll Society, No. 11, p. 196.]

This example of formal Exchequer-hand should be compared with those previously given (Plates IV A and VIII). There is a certain increase in angularity, and also in the general curvature of the letters. The tall letters are notched, and in some cases the right-hand limb of the notch forms a distinct beak made by a separate stroke of the pen (*bl.* l. 3). Many of the letters, such as *l, f, r, s,* have marked feet ; in other cases they extend below the line as usual. The majuscule letters are more ornamental than before.

Individual letters. *a* is indifferently of the headed or headless forms. *c* is distinguished from *e* by the want of the oblique 'tongue' and from *t* by its diagonal head. *d* is always round, but *Idem* is written with a majuscule *D*. The top of majuscule *D* is often left open. The tailed *e* is still used (ll. 10, 25) for *ae* but not regularly. *f* seldom extends below the line (*Infirmis* l. 6). The lower bow of *g* is closed ; that of *h* scarcely passes the line. Double *ii* are accented, the second being produced below the line, as is also final *i* sometimes ; initial *i* is often majuscule. The final stroke of *m* and *n* is often brought below the line (cf. Plate VII A) : observe the enlarged minuscule *N* (l. 4) and (as in Plate V B) the survival of majuscule *N* in *in*. *Q* has a very small body and a large tail

resembling an arabic 2. The upright *r* has usually a marked foot, but is often brought below the line; the shoulder is large, beginning some way down the stem: the round *r* is invariably used after *o*. Notice the survival of majuscule *R* in *thesauro* (l. 4). *s* initial or final is frequently a majuscule *s* of the short type. *t* usually has the stem showing above the cross. *u* is frequently used as an initial *v*; it might seem to indicate a difference in sound, but does not do so when used medially nor even always initially (*uictus* l. 17). *w* is beginning to have the *v*s looped together (l. 9); no minuscule form has yet appeared (*Twineneia* l. 19).

The usual **abbreviations** are employed. Note, however, *q*^{i}*a* for *quia* (l. 7). Superior *a*, *i*, and *o* (l. 13) are found. *-arum* is expressed by a suspension, the modified *r* not being used, except after *o* (l. 13). An oblique line and the *-er* sign are employed indifferently as common marks of suspension and contraction. *Regis* is, as usual, the majuscule *R* with a stroke through the tail (l. 12). The semicolon is used for *-us* in *-bus*.

The **ligatures** are *st* and *ct* (l. 17).

The words are usually well **separated**, though prepositions are still occasionally written on (*ineadem* l. 9). The **punctuation** is chiefly by full stops, but the semicolon (l. 13) is also used.

As a mark of **reference** indicating a displacement two oblique dashes are used (l. 12).

The marks of horizontal and vertical ruling are particularly clear, especially the pinholes in the margin made by the spacing wheel.

Detailed Notes.

l. 7. The *or* of *Portario* is smudged.

l. 9. *Tarentford* (l. 19).

l. 12. *Custamento*: *Cantuarie* and *claudende* are to be transposed.

PLATE IX, A

P. R. O. Curia Regis Roll (King's Bench), No. 1, m. 4.

A. D. 1194.

[Printed: *Rolls of the King's Court* (Pipe Roll Society, No. 14), p. 29.]

This may fairly be styled Court-hand and should be compared with Plate VII, c. The tall letters are beaked and occasionally looped, and the writing as a whole shows the double curvature already observed. It shows signs of haste, and there is a tendency to confuse similar letters.

Individual letters. *a* is usually of the headless or cursive type, even when initial. *c* has a diagonal top and is more liable to confusion with *e* than with *t*. *d* is made in two pieces, first the body and then the head; the latter is sometimes carried on by means of a hair-line, thus forming a loop (*dissaisiuit* l. 9); *D* is open at the top like *P*. The tailed *e* for *ae* is no longer found, but the complete diphthong is once written by mistake for *e* (*sororæm* l. 26). The tail of *g* is closed with a heavy line. Double *ii* are accented, and final *i* is rarely if ever produced (*Herui* l. 18). *K* has now

displaced *Ch* (*Kilkamton* l. 16). *m* and *n* frequently have the last limb brought below the line; they are otherwise scarcely distinguishable from *i* and *u*. *p* is open at the top, rather like *r* without the shoulder. *r* is somewhat deeply cleft and has a marked shoulder; the rounded form only occurs after *o*. Final *s* is usually of the long type (but note *aliis* l. 27): the rounded form is usually majuscule, one instance occurring in the middle of a word (*Bristowa* l. 11). *t* usually has a straight cross-stroke, above which the stem sometimes rises; after *c* it has a head curved back and ornamented, a survival of the old ligature. *v* rarely occurs and then only as an initial (*vnde* l. 36). A small *w* has now been made consisting, like the large one, of two interlaced *v*s.

Abbreviations, especially suspensions, are very freely used. The usual sign is a straight or slightly curved line over or through the letter, but the upright sign for *-er* is also used. *a* (usually open), *i*, and *r* are employed above the line. The special signs are *-er* (*-re*), *-us*, *con*, the Tironian *et*; the semicolon for final *-et* (*set* l. 27), and the 3 for final *-us* in *-bus*; the sign ÷ for *est*. The usual modifications of *p* for *pre*, *per*, and *pro*, and of *q* for *que*, *quem*, *quod*, *quam*, and *quia* are also found, but the last is more like a round *r* than a 3. Observe the survival of Tironian *et* as a syllable in l. 42.

The only **ligature** is *st*.

Punctuation. Full stops only are used, but the paragraph mark ℙ is freely employed. There are no **hyphens.** A **caret** mark is found, consisting of two diagonal strokes (l. 26), but in most cases additions are written above the line without any special sign.

Letters are **expunged** by the use of a dot underneath (*de* l. 7, *teneartur* l. 17), or **cancelled** by a line drawn through (*Bendinges* l. 24). There is a clumsy **erasure** in line 30 (*suis*).

Suhantonia. ℙ Hugo clericus optulit[1] se quarto die uersus Agnetem que fuit uxor Galfridi filii Ace de placito / j. carucate. terre et ipsa non uenit uel se essoniat. et summonitio testata fuit. ℙ terra capiatur in manum domini Regis et dies captionis / mandetur justiciis et cetera ad crastinum sancti Petri ad uincula. apud Westmonasterium. /

Leicestria. ℙ Petrus de caldinton optulit. se iiij. die versus Johannem de Cruel[2] positum loco uxoris sue / de placito terre de Wurdinton què capta fuit in manum domini Regis sine pluuina pro defectu Johannis[3] / quem fecit ad diem sibi in Banco datum. ℙ Judicium. Petrus habeat saisinam suam. /

Eboracscira.[4] ℙ Robertus uauasur debet xx solidos pro habendo recordo

[1] The *p* throughout this document is written carelessly.

[2] The penultimate letter is apparently *e*, but the up-stroke is so fine that it might easily be read as *c*.

[3] *Johannis* interlineated.

[4] The initial *E* is covered by a drawing-pin.

et Judicio suo [1] coram Justiciis in partibus [2] illis de / quadam terra que non ualet dimidiam marcam. quam recuperauit coram Willelmo. de Stuteuilla. et sociis [3] suis /

Dorset. Wiltes ℙ Rogerus Waspaile queritur quod Rogerus de Hineton eum dissaisiuit de j. hida terre in Deuerel quam re/cuperauit per finem factum inter [4] ipsum et quandam Clariciam in curia domini Regis. et Rogerus uenit et dicit / quod non uult [5] eum respondere—nisi consideratione curie [6]—quia fuit contra dominum Regem ad obsidendum castellum de BriStowa / cum equis et armis et receptator erat Roberie quam homines comitis. J. fecerunt et Inde ponit se super uis/netum uicinorum Comitatuum et super Rotulos Justiciarum qui Inquicicionem [*sic*] de Inimicis domini Regis / in partibus illis fecerunt. /

Cornubia. ℙ Abbas de Talkisburia ponit loco suo Simonem clericum uersus Ricardum de Greinuilla de placito aduocacionis / ecclesie de Kilkamton ad lucrandum et perdendum. /

ESexa. ℙ Andreas Blundus petit ut carta domini Regis teneatur [7] ei de terra de Gikewella quam habuit in uadium de Roberto / Britone sicut dominuS Rex preceperat coram Justiciis suis scilicet Osberto filio Herui Ricardo [8] de Herieth' Simone de / Pateshilla Radulfo archidiacono de Herefordia. apud Portesmue et Wintoniam. /

Londonie. ℙ Dies datus est vicecomitibus [9] londoniarum et Benedicto Judeo paruo de londoniis. a die mercurii proximo post octabas sancti Johannis Baptiste / in xv. dies apud Turrim londoniarum. et idem Dies datus est testibus quos ipse Benedictus uocauerat et Radulfo filio Radulfi / qui cartam dicit esse falsam. /

Kent Surreia. ℙ Hawis de Waltona petit uersus Willelmum Aguilun et Sarram uxorem ejus medietatem tocius / terre que fuit Albrici de Bendeuilla [10] et hainesciam ut soror primogenita

[1] *de* is expunged (i.e. indicated for omission by a dot underneath the letter).

[2] *parte* seems to have been first written and altered to *partibus*.

[3] The *o* in *sociis* is the same letter which has been read as *a* in *caldinton* (l. 4).

[4] The usual space between the words is omitted. *Inter* is written with a capital.

[5] Note the initial *u* in this hand.

[6] **Interlineation.** Note the sign for *con-*, which must be carefully distinguished from *q*, the latter having a longer and straighter tail. The superior *r* in *curie* is interesting, being almost exactly the same as superior *a*.

[7] An *r* is expunged.

[8] *filio* is cancelled.

[9] The *J* seems to be an anticipation of *Judeo*.

[10] *Bendinges* was originally written and the correct ending interlineated.

scilicet. de tota terra de boccham[1] / barmelinges[2] Beche- 25
wurda. farnet cum pertinenciis earundem. sicut jus[3] suum
quod desendit [*sic*] ei in partem soro/rum. Et Dicit quod
Derkinus del Acra habuit emam[4] terciam sororæm[5] que
habuit [suam] terciam partem suam de terra que fuit / Albrici
de Bendeuilla Set in aliis terris quam istis. et pacata fuit in
Curia domini Regis per[6] concordiam.[6] et ideo petit medie
/tatem predictarum terrarum. tamquam terciam partem
terrarum que fuerunt Albrici de Bendeuilla. Willelmus et
Sarra dicunt quod / non uolunt ei respondere nisi[6] curia[6]
considerauerit[6] [*sic*] de sicut ipsa dicit quod terciam habue-
runt sororem que heredes habuit absentibus heredibus / 30
tercie sororis[7] et defendunt quod tercia soror nunquam eos
implacitauit in Curia de porcione sua. ℙ Con/sideratum
est quod Willelmus et Sarra non respondeant absentibus
heredibus tercie sororis. et quod Hawis habeat breue ad
heredes / sumonendos et habent diem in Crastino Sancti
Petri ad uincula apud Westmonasterium. Willelmus ponit
Sarram uxorem eius loco / suo et Hawis ponit loco suo
Robertum filium suum uel Hubaldum auunculum Roberti.
ad lucrandum et perdendum./

Suffolcia. ℙ Radulfus filius Roberti positus loco Thome de Arderna
et Ranulfus de Auberuilla. et Matillis de Auberuilla positi[6]
loco[6] Willelmi[6] aui[6] sui[6] petunt[8] feodum / dimidii militis In 35
Baldeseia uersus Petrum de Pettam sicut jus suum quod
purgacio
eis descendit ex hereditate[9] Ranulfi / de Glanuilla vnde
proferunt cartam ipsius Petri[10] in qua continetur quod
ipse Petrus quietum clamauit totum jus / suum quod habuit
in predicta terra domino Ranulfo pro xv. marcis argenti
tenendum per seruicium dimidii militis. .Petrus uenit et /
warentizat essonia sua et defendit quod nunquam habuit
summonicionem contra Cartam istam. Set sumonitus fuit
contra Thomam de / Arderna. et Radulfus uocat curiam
quod positus fuit loco Thome Et Petrus dicit quod Ma-
tillis habet uirum et heredem qui / miles est et non uult ei 40

[1] *Hoccham* has been corrected to *boccham*.
[2] Corrected from *Warmelinges*.
[3] A very bad *j*, quite indistinguishable from *s*.
[4] *emam* interlineated.
[5] Note the curious misspelling of *sororem*.
[6] Words interlineated.
[7] Corrected from *sororibus suis*, the latter word being erased.
[8] The interlineation seems to have covered the contraction mark over the *u*.
[9] *purgacio* written above the line has obscured *hereditate*.
[10] The *p* is defective.

respondere nisi curia considerauerit et Radulfus petit quod allocetur ei quod idem Petrus essoniauit se uersus / Willelmum de arderna qui nichil clamat in hac terra. Postea Petrus uenit in curiam et dicit quod non tenet terram / illam Set Stephanus filius Magistri Roberti Sustacia tenet eam. Sumonendus est Stephanus. Matillis ponit loco / suo Nicholaum pincernam ad lucrandum et perdendum. /

Lincolscira. ℙ Benedictus de Wibertona uenit in curiam et clamauit quietam medietatem aduocacionis ecclesie de Wibertona / Ricardo parleben sicut ius illius Ricardi et adjudicatum est de alia medietate quousque idem Ricardus etatem habeat placitandi. /

PLATE IX, B

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. 354.

A.D. 1202.

The flourished heads and abbreviation marks of this specimen indicate an ecclesiastical source, and it was probably written by some servant or member of the house to which it was granted. A trace of twelfth-century curvature survives in the *f*s and *s*s, but the complication of the capitals and the general straightness of the writing contrast strongly with Plate VII of about forty years before. The tall letters are notched but not looped, the hand being a set one and scarcely at all current. It is written with a slanted pen.

Individual letters. The headless *a* is not used, but superior *a* has the flat stroke over it. *c* twice replaces *t* (*pertinenciis* l. 5, *tercio* l. 9). *f* and *s* come below the line. The lower bow of *g* consists of a heavy horizontal stroke joined to the upper bow by a hair-line. Single *i* is occasionally accented (*suis* l. 5). The last stroke of final *m* has a curious tail: *M* should be noticed (*Margareta* l. 4) as it develops later into a type resembling an *A* with a final flourish. The round *r* is used after *p* and the ordinary form comes below the line. Final *s* is of the short type but rather large. *w* is always large.

Abbreviations. The common sign is a knot, and the extremely ornamental *-us* sign should be noticed, as also the flourished *s* for *ser-* (*seruientibus* l. 3).

The **punctuation** is entirely by full stops.

A slight oblique stroke is used as a **hyphen** (ll. 2, 4).

Johannes dei gratia. Rex Anglie. Dominus Hibernie. Dux Normannie. Aquitanie. et Comes Andegauie. Archiepiscopis. Episcopis. / Abbatibus. Comitibus. Baronibus. Justiciis. Vicecomitibus. et omnibus Bailliuis et fidelibus suis Salutem. Sciatis

nos con/cessisse et presenti carta confirmasse deo et Sancte marie de Karho. et monialibus ibidem deo seruientibus / rationabilem donationem quam Margareta de Chesneto eis fecit de tota villa sua de Wrokes/hama cum omnibus pertinenciis suis. Quare uolumus et firmiter precipimus quod predicte moniales habeant / et teneant predictam villam bene et in pace. integre. plenarie et honorifice cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis / consuetudinibus suis Sicut carta predicte Margarete rationabiliter testatur. Testibus. Johanne. Norwicensi / Episcopo. Willelmo Briewere. Gerardo de Furniualle. Petro de Stokes. Data per manum. Simonis / Archidiaconi Wellensis apud Chinonem .xvij. die Januarii. Regni Nostri Anno Tercio.

PLATE IX, C

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. 10794.

A.D. 1204.

In general character this hand resembles that of (D), but it is less cursive and the horizontal strokes are more emphatic. The tall letters are beaked and slightly notched.

Individual letters. Superior *a* is closed by a heavy top-stroke. *d* has a very unusual head without any trace of a loop and with a break where it joins the bow. *g* is closed and has a marked tie. Single *i* is sometimes accented (*huiusmodi* l. 7). Note the resemblance of *N* and *H*. *Q* is like an arabic 2 (l. 5). The round *r* is only used after *o*: superior *r* is shaped like *Q*. The short *s* is used as a final (note *concessisse* ll. 2, 3). *t* shows signs of giving place to *c* (*Marcii* l. 10).

Abbreviations. The ornamental knot is used side by side with the ordinary line. The *-rum* suspension is only used after *o* (*feriarum* l. 5). Tironian *et* has a cross stroke, and is still used at the end of words (*quolibet* l. 4). Notice the unusual contraction for *dilecto* (l. 3).

The only **ligatures** are *st* and *de*, but letters with bows occasionally touch (*episcopo* l. 8).

The **punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons; the final stop is a dash with a flourish under it. The way in which *Quinto* is written to fill the last line should be observed.

Johannes dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hybernie. Dux Normannie et Aquitanie. et Comes Andegauie. Archiepiscopis. Episcopis. / Abbatibus. Comitibus. Baronibus. Justiciis. Vicecomitibus. Prepositis. et omnibus Balliuis et fidelibus suis Salutem. Sciatis nos concessis/se et presenti carta confirmasse Dilecto et fideli nostro Willelmo Comiti de Warenna et heredibus suis quod habeant quan/dam feriam quolibet anno apud Wakefeldam; per tres dies duraturam. scilicet in vigilia omnium Sanctorum

et in festo / omnium Sanctorum et in crastino omnium Sanctorum. Ita tamen quod feria illa non sit ad nocumentum ; uicinarum feriarum. Quare / uolumus et firmiter precipimus quod predictus Comes de Warenna et heredes sui habeant et teneant predictam feriam bene / et in pace. libere et quiete et honorifice cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ; ad huiusmodi feriam pertinenti/bus ; Sicut predictum est. Testibus. Willelmo. Lincolniensi Episcopo. G.[1] Herefordensi Episcopo. Galfrido filio Petri Comite Essexie. Roberto. Comite Leicestrie. / .Ranulpho. Comite Cestrie. Comite. Willelmo. Marescallo. Willelmo. Comite[2] Sarrisberie. Walerano. Comite Warwici. Henrico. Comite Herefordie. Willelmo / de Brausa. Data per manum. Simonis. Prepositi Beuerlacensis et Archidiaconi Wellensis apud Brugas .xv. die Marcii. Anno regni nostri / Quinto.

PLATE IX, D

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. 6207.

A.D. 1215.

[Printed: Rymer, *Foedera* I, pt. 1, p. 137.]

The handwriting of this charter marks a distinct advance towards thirteenth-century Court-hand. The general double curvature of the 12th century has completely disappeared, and the salient feature is the thickness of the diagonal strokes such as the tops of the *d*s and *a*s. The writing is somewhat angular and less current than some earlier examples, and the tops of the tall letters though sometimes looped are not floreated. The use of parallel strokes of the pen in the capitals is particularly noticeable.

Individual letters. *a* has usually a head, which once even develops into an upper bow (*papa* l. 5). Superior *a* is acquiring the characteristic horizontal top-stroke. *c* has displaced *t* in such words as *exheredacionem* (l. 6), but *pactione* is still written in the old way. *e* is still liable to confusion with *c* (*meum* l. 6). *f* and *s* have feet and do not come below the line. *g* has the lower bow small and closed: the tie is not emphasized. *h* is not prolonged below the line. *i* is usually accented, for the first time in these facsimiles: the second *i* of *ii* is not prolonged. *m* and *n* are distinguished from *u* and *i*. *r* has a foot and does not come below the line: the rounded form begins to be used after other letters with bows as well as after *o* (*propriam* l. 2). Note the survival of the capital form in *Cestrie* (l. 1). Final *s* is short; *S* (in *Sciatis* l. 1) is beginning to develop into the characteristic large tailed *S* of the 13th century. *t* retains its head after *c* (*pactione* l. 5). *v* is only used as a semi-capital (*vite* l. 2).

Abbreviations. Suspensions are not numerous. The common sign is a straight dash, but a knot is also used (*quod* l. 5), as also for *-er* (*libertatibus*

[1] The name is Giles, the Latin of which should be *Egidius*.

[2] Note marks of transposition.

l. 5). The semicolon for *-et* and *-us* has given place to a 3. Observe the unusual abbreviation of *presentem* in l. 1.

Ligatures. *st* is beginning to break up into its elements, but we find *pp* (*propriam* l. 2, *papa* l. 5), and the bows of *de* frequently touch (*quidem* l. 5, *obsidem* l. 8).

The **punctuation** is entirely by full stops, and **capitals** are used freely for emphasis.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus presentem Cartam inspecturis. Johannes Constabularius. Cestrie[1] Salutem. Sciatis me spontanea uoluntate / mea et ad peticionem meam propriam pepigisse Domino meo. Johanni. Illustri Regi Anglie. quod omnibus diebus vite mee ei et heredibus / suis de Domina Isabella Regina Anglie genitis. fideliter seruiam nec aliquo tempore contra eos ero. Et si quod sacramentum / Inimicis suis fecerim illud non tenebo. nec adherebo in aliquo carte quam idem Dominus Rex communiter fecit Baronibus / Anglie de libertatibus quam quidem Dominus papa cassauit. Et si forte quod absit contigerit me resilire ab hac pactione in aliquo / erga Dominum meum Regem uel heredes suos perpetuam exheredacionem incurremus ego et heredes mei de tota terra mea[2] / que in usus Domini Regis et heredum suorum perpetuis cedet temporibus. Et in maiorem fidelis seruicii mei securitatem de/di ipsi Domino meo Regi in obsidem Rogerum fratrem meum tenendum quam diu ei placuerit. Testibus. Ranulpho. Comite. Cestrie / .Galfrido de Neuilla. Hugone Dispensatore.

PLATE X, A

P. R. O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 1, m. 3.

A. D. 1201–2.

[Printed: Record Commission '*Rotuli Litterarum Patentium*', p. 8.]

This hand retains the characteristic curvature of the 12th century, together with the free and current character of the 13th. Tall letters are now frequently looped at the top and sometimes provided with a preliminary flourish producing the floreated heads so common in the succeeding century. Similar letters are, on the whole, well distinguished, but there is more careless writing than the attractive general appearance would lead one to suspect.

Individual letters. The long headed *a* is rare except in the smaller

[1] The *r* is a reduced capital *R*: the first part of it has become amalgamated with the *t*.

[2] The scribe has apparently begun to write *mea* in full; then altered the *e* into an *a* and added an abbreviation mark.

hand at the end: *A* is developing from the long headed type to the current looped *A* of later hands; it is just beginning to be made in one stroke of the pen (*Alios* l. 10). *c* is beginning to be confused with *t* (*dilectum* l. 10). *d* is now fairly often looped. The tongue of *e* is emphasized and forms the bond with the next letter. The tail of *g* is closed in the small hand, forming a round loop; in the larger hand it is brought back underneath, forming a flat loop on the under sides. Single *i* is now occasionally accented (*seruitium* l. 13, *inperpetuum* l. 15): final *i* is occasionally lengthened (*Leulini* l. 27, *Julii* l. 31). *m* and *n* are not clearly distinguished from *i* and *u*, and the last stroke of each is only lengthened as a rule when the letters are final. The top of *p* is nearly closed, but the notch at the top is still so large that the letter sometimes resembles an abbreviated *q* (*pacem* l. 37). The round *r* is only used after *o* (*porro* l. 25): the curled tail of the ordinary variety is occasionally made into a loop, thus enabling the scribe to write it with one stroke of the pen (*uestra* l. 4). The tails of *s* and *f* are similarly brought up, forming a large loop at the back of the letter: this somewhat obscures the distinction between the long and the short *s*, so that it is difficult to say that the latter really occurs. *t* has not yet given place to *c* in such words as *dilatione* (ll. 11, 12), though we find *iij*^{cio} (l. 31); after *c* it still occasionally has a curved head (*protectione* l. 1). Initial *v* is occasionally used (*vtlagariam* l. 36). *z* is of the short type (*warantizionem* l. 6).

Abbreviations. The sign for *-er* is only rarely used for the common sign (*dominum* l. 5). Superior letters are freely used: *a* has three forms, open (*tractari* l. 20), long headed, with the head turned over to form an upper loop (*erga* l. 8), and closed by a horizontal line (*quamdiu* l. 1). *r* has sometimes an initial flourish recalling the ligature *or* (*obseruabitur* l. 24). Observe the *s* with a flourish for *ser-* (*seruicio* l. 2). The Tironian *et* has the tail brought up to form a transverse cross: for *etiam* it has also a mark of contraction. It still occurs as part of a word (*apponet* l. 5). The only **ligatures** are *st* and *de* (l. 3).

Punctuation. The prepositions and conjunctions are sometimes imperfectly separated (*si vero* ll. 18, 29). The stops used are full stops and semicolons: a comma is used to separate words improperly joined (*siuero* l. 18). The **paragraph marks** are modifications of *S*.

℗ Johannes de Builly habet litteras domini Regis patentes[1] de protectione directas balliuis in quorum baliis habet terras. Et in fine earum ponitur ne ponatur in placitum de tenementis quamdiu fuerit in / seruicio domini Regis ad custodiendum castellum de Scardeburgo per preceptum suum./

℗ Rex et cetera. Militibus. Burgensibus et omnibus tenentibus de comitatu Augi et precipue probis hominibus de Augo. et cetera.

[1] The word is written badly. The loop over the line before the *et* is a mistake.

Sciatis nobis pro certo datum esse intelligi per tales per quos bene credimus certi/ficari quod filia comitis Augi domina uestra vxor Radulfi de Exolduna; mortua est. Et ideo uobis mittimus Johannem de Augo quo iustiorem uel apparentiorem heredem non nouimus de comitatu / Augi. mandantes et rogantes quod illum in [domum nostram *struck through*] dominum uestrum recipiatis et ei tanquam domino sitis intendentes. Ipse enim omnem quam poterit apponet diligentiam / ad uestram defensionem et warantizionem et similiter nos pro posse nostro ut dilectos et fideles nostros uos defendemus et manutenebimus. Teste. me ipso apud Montemfortem /.j. die Aprilis./ ℙ Rex et cetera probis hominibus de Augo salutem. Grates uobis referimus multiplices pro eo quod tam fideliter. et tam naturaliter uos habuistis et habetis erga nos et quia tam uiriliter illos / expulsistis qui in uillam nostram intrauerant. in dedecus nostrum et uestrum. Et rogamus quod uiriliter uos habeatis sicut probi homines et in hoc constanter perseueretis. Mittimus / autem ad uos dilectum et fidelem nostrum Johannem de Augo et Alios de militibus nostris cum illo. mandantes ut ipsum recipiatis. et eidem sitis in omnibus intendentes. Quia ipse / uobis non deerit nec pro morte nec pro uita. neque nos deerimus uobis per terram uel per mare. Mandau[i]mus etiam dilecto et fideli nostro Willelmo Marascallo. quod sine dila/tione mittat uobis milites et seruientes quotcunque poterit. ad custodiendum et manutenendum honorem nostrum et uestrum et uos uiriliter uos habeatis ut prediximus. / ℙ Hec est forma pacis qua Leulinus filius Joruert uenit ad seruitium Domini Regis. primo coram Roberto Bargorensi.[1] et R. de Sancto Asapho episcopis. et Domino G. filio Petri / comite Essexie Justiciario[2] Domini Regis. et baronibus multis et pluribus aliis. Jurauit idem Leulinus et maiores terre sue post eum iurauerunt fidelitatem domini Regis. Johannis. contra omnes homines / se inperpetuum obseruaturos de sua uita et membris suis et de suo terreno honore. Et idem Leulinus recepit de manu Domini Justiciarii saisinam omnium tenementorum suorum que[3] tunc / possidebat. et ea in pace tenebit usque aduentum domini Regis in Angliam. Et cum dominus Rex in Angliam uenerit Idem. Leulinus ad mandatum eius ueniet ad eum. / et homagium ei faciet sicut domino suo ligio de predictis tenementis. Et homagio facto in pace redibit ad propria. nec ab aliquo implacitabitur. donec in / patria sua competentem receperit summonitionem. et Dominus Rex omnia

[1] An error for *Bangorensi.*

[2] The extension of this word is uncertain; the forms *justicia* and *justiciarius* seem to be used indifferently.

[3] Written carelessly in one word *quetc.*

retro forisfacta ante diem pacis si qua sunt ei condonabit. Siuero postmodum aliquis querelam mo/uerit super aliquo tenementorum suorum predictorum in eius electione erit utrum causa illa tractetur secundum legem Anglie. uel secundum legem Wallie. et non respondebit / alicui nisi de proprietate ;[1] tantum ; exclusa penitus questione possessionis. Et si secundum legem Anglie causam illam tractari elegerit ; Dominus Rex ponet[2] curiam suam in An/glia in loco competenti. et ibi quod iustum fuerit secundum legem illam iudicabitur. Si autem legem Wallensem elegerit ; quicumque[3] eum super predictis in causam traxerit ; primo / discernetur. utrum ipse Leulinus curiam suam habere debeat uel non. quam si habuerit ;[4] causam[5] illam in curia sua tractabit. Si uero curiam suam non habuerit ; dominus / Rex mittet de fidelibus suis uiros discretos in terram Leulini de qua questio fuerit coram quibus a Wallensibus ad hoc electis et partibus non suspectis ; / quod iustum fuerit statuetur. et a partibus firmiter obseruabitur. Similiter fiet de omnibus aliis de quibus decetero querele uenient ad dominum regem uel iusticiarium / eius de ipso Leulino. Porro si idem[6] Leulinus aut sui domino Regi uel suis forisfecerint. post pacem predictam dominus Rex fideli consilio Domini Cantuariensis archiepiscopi et Domini G. / filii Petri Justiciarii uel alterius illorum si ambo interesse non poterint et aliorum fidelium suorum emendationem recipiet. nichilominus predicta pace obseruata. Dominus / etiam Cantuariensis et Dominus G. filius Petri Justiciarius. Episcopi. Comites. Barones qui huic paci componende interfuerunt ad honorem dei et domini regis. causam Leulini secundum / Justiciam fouebunt. Preterea si qui dampna in terra domini regis fecerint et in terram Leulini uenerint ; et dampna passi uel alii eos cum[7] clamore et cornu usque / ad terram predicti Leulini insecuti fuerint ; idem Leulinus dampna restituet et de malefactoribus iusticiam faciet. Siuero malefactores terre domini Regis / per terram ipsius Leulini furtiue transierint ; uel ibi se occultauerint super sacramentum suum promisit. quod omnem diligentiam adhibebit[8] ad hoc emendandum. / sicut faceret si dampna sibi uel terre sue illata essent. Facta fuit pax ista .iij^{cio}. Anno regni Regis Johannis .v^{to}. Idus Julii. Et ad maiorem / huius rei securita-

[1] The superior *i* is joined to the top of the second *p*, giving the letter the look of an *s*.

[2] The *e* is so blurred as to be very nearly an *i*.

[3] The *i* is made rather like a *c*.

[4] This word is badly written ; the *h* struck through means *hab* ; the first minim of the *u* is improperly looped ; compare *habuerit* below.

[5] A badly formed *c* rather like an *e*.

[6] *si idem* interlineated.

[7] Note the curious form of the *c*, which is made with one stroke of the pen.

[8] The contraction marks through the *b* s are meaningless.

tem Dominus Cantuariensis et Dominus G. filius Petri. Justiciarius. sigilla sua huic scripto apposuerunt. et pepigerunt quod dominus rex. pacem istam / sigillo suo confirmabit. ℙ Guido de la Val habet litteras domini patentes. de simplici protectione et in fine illarum ponitur ne ab eo uel hominibus suis aliquid[1] exigatur quod facere non debent. /

J. dei gratia et cetera. G. filio Petri et cetera. Sciatis quod nos dedimus saluum conductum Johanni filio Ricardi de Sancto Homero eundi et redeundi in terram nostram cum Marchandisis suis et in terra nostra negociandi usque / ad festum Sancti michaelis; proximo futurum. Teste Roberto de Harecurt apud Rothomagum .viij. die Aprilis. /

J. dei gratia et cetera. Justiciariis vicecomitibus. Balliuis. et omnibus fidelibus suis Anglis.[2] et cetera. Sciatis quod perdonauimus Gaufrido Flamang'[3] fugam quam fecit et vtlagariam in eum promulgatam pro / morte Walteri le Petit. Et ideo. precipimus quod ipse pacem inde habeat. Ita tamen quod pacem faciat cum parentibus. Teste. et cetera. apud Rothomagum xj. die Aprilis. /

ℙ Adam filius Ricardi habet litteras patentes de perdonatione vtlagarie que in eum promulgata fuit. /

ℙ Willelmus filius Ricardi habet similes litteras sub eadem forma. /

ℙ Rex et cetera Ricardo Flandrensi et cetera. Mandamus tibi quod liberes Dilecto et fideli nostro Huberto de Burgo Camerario nostro castrum de Landstanetona. Et in huius rei testimonium has litteras nostras patentes tibi mittimus / Teste. me ipso apud Auriuallem .xv. die Aprilis.

PLATE X, B

P. R. O. Ancient Correspondence, vol. I, No. 103.

August or September, A.D. 1220.

[Printed: Shirley, *Royal Letters*, vol. I, No. 132.]

This, like Plate XII D, is in a cursive hand. It will be observed in both cases how the loss of the distinction of *m*, *n*, *i*, and *u* leads to the increased

[1] The *quid* is doubly abbreviated, by means of a superior *i* and by a stroke through the *q*; without the superior *i* the natural extension would be *quod*.

[2] The extension is uncertain. *Anglicis* is equally likely; *Anglie* less probable; the *et cetera* probably means *et Francis salutem*; but it is not likely that the enrolling clerk troubled about the formula.

[3] Here too the abbreviation merely means that the scribe did not know the dative case of *Flamang'*; a careful man would have put *Flandrensi*, as is done below.

use of accented *i* and initial *v*. The tall letters are once more notched, but the notches show signs of developing into the later floreated heads. The *s* s alone show a slight trace of the twelfth-century double curvature.

Individual letters. The headed and the cursive *a* are used almost indifferently. *c* is well distinguished from *t*, which retains its place in such words as *miseratione* (l. 1). *d* is not looped but has a pronounced head: *D* is a somewhat unusual compromise between the large and the small types. *f* and *s* come below the line and have separately written heads. The lower bow of *g* is nearly closed. *i* is accented when liable to confusion with *m*, *n*, and *u*, and final *i* is not lengthened. *L* is used in the middle of words (*palam* l. 8, *solum* l. 9). The final limb of *m* is sharply bent. *p* has an open top and a looped stem, like that of *r*. The rounded *r* is only used after *o*. Final *s* is again of the long type; note the *S* of *Scotie* (l. 13) which somewhat resembles the German *S*. *v* is usually but not always (*uos* l. 15) written for initial *u*, without distinction of sound.

Abbreviations are comparatively few and mostly by contraction; the *t* in *dilecto* (l. 1) is dropped in later usage. *Epc'* for *Episcopus* is also an early form (cf. Plate III). Note the spellings *Octauis* (l. 14) instead of the more usual *Octabis*, and *eccllesia* (ll. 10, 15). *st* is the only **ligature.**

The **punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons.

Nobili viro et Amico speciali et dilecto. domino. Huberto. de Burgo. Justiciario. Anglie. Walterus diuina miseratione Eboracensis. Archiepiscopus et Anglie. Primas. Salutem et sincere / dilectionis affectum. Cupientes in quibus possumus ea facere que vobis cedere possent comodo et honori; quod nobis scripsistis fecimus erga Hugonem. / de Bolebec. sicut melius posse fieri credidimus significantes illi per nuntios nostros tam clericos quam milites et etiam cum ad nos venisset viua uoce / protestantes; quod inauditum fuit et insolitum per aliquod breue Castrum reddere. nec illi tutum uel honorificum esse id facere. Postmodum / autem cum vrgentibus quibusdam arduis negotiis conuenissemus apud Dunelmum. nos et dominus Episcopus. Dunelmensis. et multi nobiliores de Baronibus suis / et etiam ipse Rogerus Bertrhami. et Hugo de Bolebec; vehementer institit idem Rogerus ut ei Castrum suum redderetur. Et cum Hugo de Bolebec. / super hoc artius quesisset consilium et petisset literas nostras testimoniales et similiter ipsius Episcopi quod ad mandatum Domini Regis. Castrum reddidisset et nos / non solum in consilio. set etiam palam et in puplico iterum protestati sumus. non solere per literas Castrum reddi. nec id viri fidelis conuenire / honestati. vnde credimus non solum dicti Rogeri set et omnium parentum. Amicorum et complicium suorum indignationem incurrisse. Cum /

autem inde recessissemus versus partes Eboraci propter quedam vrgentia ecclesie nostre que nos vocabant negotia; Audiuimus nescimus tamen an / verum sit quod prefatus dominus Dunelmensis. recepto obside a predicto Rogero Berthrami. filio suo; fecit illi literas. set quales; nos nescimus. Hoc / autem vobis significamus; quod in nullo cessauit diligentia nostra. nec nobis imputetis si forte aliter factum sit quam vellemus. Cum / autem literas domini Regis. receperimus de conductu Regi Scotie faciendo qui eidem domino Regi apud Eboracum in xv. dies post festum sancti Michaelis. / debet occurrere. et ideo non possimus in Octauis Sancti Michaelis Lundoniis. interesse propter quandam assisam de ultima presentatione quam Adam de / H[ai]tona contra nos impetrauit super eccllesia de Claureburc; Rogamus uos quatinus breue domini Regis de Waranto nobis habere faciatis. Valete.

PLATE XI

P.R.O. Pipe Roll (Exch. L. T. R.), No. 60.

A.D. 1214.

The handwriting of this example should be compared with that of Plates V B and VIII, which belong to the same series. It is decidedly more archaic in general appearance than the cursive hands of the last two plates, though not very carefully written, and may be regarded as a degraded example of the traditional Exchequer-hand. The tall letters are no longer notched, but beaked or left plain, and not yet looped. The general character of the hand is upright and shows few traces of the *s*-curves of the 12th century. It will be noticed that the roll was written before the sheriff made his account, and the necessary figures and other remarks filled in at the account itself with a finer pen.

Individual letters. *a* has usually a head. *c* is distinguishable from *t* by its diagonal head. *D* is frequently open at the top (*Drogonis* l. 4). The tongue of *e* is a very fine stroke and sometimes so faint as to make the letter exactly like *c* (*Napier* l. 16). *f* is usually tied to the following letter. The lower bow of *g* is closed. Double *ii* are usually, and single occasionally, accented (*Wanetinge* l. 4): final *i* is not produced below the line except in numerals. *K*, though now usual, has not replaced *ch* in the heading *Berchescira*. The last stroke of final *m* and *n* is brought below the line: the uncial form appears to be used as a sort of capital: both are well distinguished from *u* and *i*. *p* is often open-topped (*palefrido* l. 22). The stem of *r* comes well below the line, the shoulder being high up and small: observe the persistence of the capital form in *Berchsira* (l. 2), and note the *r* written in one stroke with a looped stem in *respondere*

(l. 7). The short *s* is not used except in majuscule. *t* is distinguished by its flat top: it still persists in such words as *emendatione* (l. 28), where it will soon be replaced by *c*: after *c* it sometimes has a long head, recalling the earlier ligature (*respectu* l. 22). *v* is used as an initial, but not invariably (l. 6): except as a numeral it may be considered the large form of *u*. There is as yet no small *w*. The first *y* in these facsimiles occurs in *Noyun* (l. 4): the dot serves to distinguish it from þ. *z* is of the short type (l. 7).

Abbreviations, especially suspensions, are numerous. The common sign is either a straight line or the sign for *er*, sometimes a 'lightning flash' mark like those used in Domesday Book. Other abbreviations are of the usual class. A curious superior *r* occurs in *Uplambourne* (l. 19). The semicolon is used for *-et* in *set* (l. 20) but a *ȝ* for *-us* in *consuetudinibus* (l. 26).

The **ligatures** are *st* and *de*.

The **punctuation** is entirely by means of full stops. In spite of the rule to the contrary (*Dialogus de Scaccario* II. ij. B) this roll shows an **erasure** (l. 19) and a cancellation by a line drawn under (l. 18). (Compare Plate XII.)

The traces of vertical and horizontal **ruling** are very clear.

Berchescira. /

Iohannes de Wichenoltona ut custos reddit Compotum de .C. et xlj.li. et viij.s. et iiij.d. blancis de firma de Berchsira. In thesauro .xxxiiij.li. et ix.d. blanci. /

Et in elemosina constituta. militibus de templo .j. marca. Et in terris datis. Monachis de Radinges .lvj.li. in Blieburc. Et eisdem .xxv.li. in Henred. Et monachis de cluniaco .c. marce in ledecumbe. Et in / Wanetinge. comiti Willelmo Marescallo Juniori .l.li. blance. Et Monachis de Monte Drogonis .vij.li. in miggehale. Et Monachis de Noyun .lx.s. in Graftona. Et Warino filio / Henrici Camerarii .xxxij.li. in Speresholt. Et Hawise matri fulconis filii Warini .xxiij. li. blance in lamburn'. Et Josceo de plugenai. in eadem uilla .xxiij. li. blance. Et Roberto de curtenai / .l.li. in Suttone. Et Willelmo de lanual' .c.s. blanci. in Blakegraue. Et Willelmo filio W. Bewerre .x.li. blance. in Uplamburn'. Et Ricardo Walensi .vij.li. et .x.s. in Vplamburne. Et eidem .x.li. blance. in / Estberi cum filio et herede Radulphi de lanual'. Et in Cocham et in Brai .c. et xx.li. blance. de quibus Johannes filius Hugonis debet respondere. Et Ricardo Morin. et Petro Bertram .xv.li. in Gainz. Et Willelmo / le grant .xxv.s. et iiij.d. in Scriueham. Et Abbati et monachis de Radinges .xl.s. in forinseco hundredo. /

Et debet .xiij.li. et xj.s. et vij.d. blancos. /

Jordanus de londoniis reddit Compotum de .v. marcis. de Aualagio Tamisie In thesauro. /

Hugo de Scotebroc reddit compotum de .xij.d. de molendino de henlike. In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est. /

Alanus basset reddit compotum de .xx.li. de firma de Wicumbe. In thesauro .xviij.li. et viij.s. et viij.d. Et in Elemosina constituta. Monachis de Becco .xviij.s. Et ecclesie eiusdem uille .j. marca. Et Quietus est. /

Idem vicecomes reddit compotum de .xxiij.s. et viij.d. de quadam domo escaeta[1] in Oxeneford. In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est. /

Galfridus de Mandeuilla reddit compotum de .xv.s. de firma terre que fuit Roberti de Rothomago de .iij. annis preteritis. Et de v.s. de hoc anno. In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est. /

Reginaldus de Benetfeld reddit compotum de .vj.d. pro .iiij. acris excolendis. Et de .vj.d. de hoc anno. In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est. /

Robertus le Napier reddit compotum de .iij.s. pro .j. napa In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est /

Micael de sancto phileberto ij.s. pro .vj. acris. de .ij. annis preteritis. Et xij.d. de hoc anno. /

Johannes filius Willelmi reddit compotum de .xl.s. de firma terre Johannis de Gerardmulin quia infra. In thesauro /

Johannes Marescallus debet .vij.li. et xiiij.s. et vj.d. blancos de firma de Vplamburn'[2] sicut continetur in Rotulo. xiiij°. Willelmus filius Walkelini. debet .v. marcas. pro habenda pace. sicut continetur in Rotulo .xii°. /

Galfridus de Bacsete debet xiij. marcas. et vij.s. et iiij.d. sicut continetur in Rotulo .ix°. Set Johannes filius Hugonis respondet inde de .ij. marcis. in compoto suo /

Felicia de Leia et Willelmus filius suus. debent .x.li. et j. marcam. pro Matheo de Bikestrop pro habenda custodia. sicut continetur in Rotulo .ix°. in Oxeneforde. de quibus Vicecomes respondet de .xxx.s. in compoto suo in rotulo sequenti. Et debent .ix.li. et .iij.s. et .iiij.d. /

Willelmus painel et Sarra vxor eius reddunt compotum de .xv. marcis. et j. palefrido pro habendo respectu sicut continetur in Rotulo ix°. In thesauro .ix. marce. Et debent .vij. marcas. et j. palefridum. /

Ricardus filius Johannis v.s. pro essartis. /

Reginaldus de sancto Walerico reddit compotum de .xliij.s. et viij.d. et ij. palefridis pro habenda hereditate. sicut continetur in Rotulo xj°. In thesauro .ij. marce. et dimidia. Et debet .x.s. et iiij.d. et ij. palefridos /

[1] *Escaeta*: the second *e* is very carelessly written. [2] Written over erasure.

Walengeford. / 25

Idem vicecomes reddit compotum de .xv.li. et xv.s. et v.d. de redditu assiso de Warengeford. hoc anno. Et de .xviij.li. et viij.s. et v.d. de teloneo. et aliis consuetudinibus. Et de .C.s. de placitis et perquisitis. / Summa .xxxix.li. et iij.s. et xj d. In thesauro .xxv.li. et x.s. et viij.d. Et abbati de Dorkecestria .ij.s. Et monialibus de Garinges .xij.s. Et Rogero de Strattone .xj.s. et v.d. Et Radulpho de / Cambrai .xxx.s. et v.d. Et in stipendiis seruientum[1] .xx.s. Et in selda fori edificanda .xxxvij.s. et v.d. Et in Emendatione Domorum in castello viij.li. per breue Regis Et Quietus est.

PLATE XII, A

P. R. O. Subsidies (Exch. K. R.), Box 242, No. 127.

A.D. 1225.

This assessment is of a somewhat archaic type of writing, probably due to its having been written in the country. Although the hand is upright when compared with some earlier hands, the horizontal strokes are not emphasized, and the tops of the tall letters are slightly notched and show no trace of looping or floreation.

The ordinances for the assessment are printed in Rymer's *Foedera* (Record Ed.), i. 177.

Individual letters. *a* frequently has a head which is once turned over to form an upper bow (*vaccam* l. 2). *c* has replaced *t* in *tocius* but is quite distinct from it. *f* and *s* only extend slightly below the line. *i* is not accented, but the second of two *i*'s is produced. Note the use of *k* (*Takeland* l. 17). *m* and *n* are distinguished from *u* and *i* and the last stroke is often produced. *p* is open-topped. *r* is above the line and the round form only used after *o*. The round *s* is not used. *v* is used as an initial and *u* as a medial. *y* is frequently used for *i* (*ordey* l. 4).

Abbreviations. The straight dash and the *-er* sign are used indifferently. *pre* is the book-hand contraction instead of the usual *-er* sign over the *p*. Superior *a* is open at the top. The Tironian sign for *et* is crossed.

Observe the **spelling** *auares* for the more usual *averia* and the alternatives *stircas* and *stirchas*.

The only **ligatures** are *st* and *de*. The **punctuation** is by full stops.

De feudo droconis bretun. De dominio suo .vij^{tem}. boues. precium[2]

[1] *Seruientum* [*sic*].

[2] *viij.* erased in original after *precium*.

.xx.viij.s. .iij. auares. et .j. pullanum / precium .xj.s. .j. vaccam. precium .iiij.s. et .j. stircatam. precium .xx^{ti}.d. xvj. porcos. precium .viij s. centum. et / vij. oues. Precium .xxxv.s. et viij.d. xxx^{a}. iiij. pelles. precium .viij^{a}.s. et vj.d. vj. quarteria frumenti. pre[c]ium. xx.j.s. / .v. qua[r]teria ordey. precium .x.s. .iij. quarteria auene. precium .iij.s. .ij. quarteria de. pais. et fabis. precium .ij.s. / Summa tocius .vj.li. et .xij.s. et. x.d.[1] Summa Quindecime .viij.s. x.[2]d. Idem. drocon'. [ha]bet .xx.s. /

Ricardus Deffe .iij. vaccas. precium .xij.s. .iij. stircatas. precium iiij.s. .ij. quarteria ordei.[3] precium .iiij.s. dimidium. quarterium. frumenti. precium .x. / . . . viij^{a}. quarteria. brasii. precium j. marcam .j. quarterium. de peseis. precium .xx.d. xx.vj. busselli vasele[4] precium .xxx.ij.d. / Summa tocius .j.li. et .xix^{a}.s. et .iiij.d. Summa quindecime .xxxij.d. /

Thom[as]. brun .ij. boues. precium. viij.s. .ij. vaccas. precium .v.s. .iij. stirchas. precii v.s. .j. auaram. precium / . . . quarteria furmenti. precium .xvj.s. et iiij.d. j. quarterium et dimidium. de ordeo. precium .iij.s. .j [q]uarterium. auene. precium .xij.d. / Su[mma] tocius .ij.li. et xvj.d. Summa quindecime .xxxiij.d. /

[? Petrus] colswain. [j]. vaccam. precium .iiij.s. .ij. stircas. precium .iij.s. .j. aua[ram precium]. .s. ij. quarteria. et dimidium et . . . / [bus]sellos ordei. [prec]ium .v.s. et vj.d. j. quarterium frumenti. precium .iij.s. et iiij.d. et xvj.d. in bursa. / Summa tocius .j.li. Summa quindecime .xvij.d. et quadrans. /

[R]obertus . . . .ij. vaccas. precium .iiijs. et vj.d. ij. stircas. precium .iij.s. / Summa. tocius .vij.s. et vj.d. Summa quindecime .v.d. /

Ricardus takeland .j. auaram. et j. pullanum. precium .v.s. .j. bouem .precium .iiij.s. j. vaccam. precium .iiij.s. / [ij.] stircas. pre[ci]um .iij.s. .j. quarterium. ordey. precium .ij.s. .iij. bussellos. frumenti. precium .xxx. . . . . [qua]rterium. de / fabis. precium .x.d. Summa .xx.ij.s. et iij.d. Summa quindecime .xvij.d. et ob[olus.] / . . . . . a. et. j. stircam. et .j. vitulum. precium v.s. Summa .v.s. Summa qui[nt]edecime .iiij.d. /

[1] *x.* originally written *viij.*

[2] *x.* substituted for *viij.* as above.

[3] *ordei* substituted for *auene.*

[4] Apparently the scribe wrote originally *avene*, the first *e* being inserted above the line. He then cancelled the *a*: the *v* does duty for a *b* and the inserted *e* for the *-us* contraction (*busselli*), while the *n* is read as *u* (*v*), the second *e* altered to *a*, an *s* added, and *ele* inserted above the line; the whole representing finally *busselli vasele* (=*phasele*, bean).

. . . . . vaccam. et .j. vitulum. precium iij.s. Summa .iij.s. Summa quintedeci[m]e .ij.d. et obolus. /

. . . . . .ij. boves. precium .viij.s. .iij. vaccas. precium .x.s. . . . stirchas. precium .viij.s. .ij. quarteria frumenti. / . . . . . s. .j. quarterium auene. precium xij.d. dimidium. quarterium. ordey .xij. [d]. j. equam . . . . . pullanum. precium .vj.s. / . . . . . [qui]ntedecime .xxx.vj.d.

. . . . . [Sum]ma tocius .ij.s. et v.[d]. Summa quintedec[ime] . . . / 25

. . . . . [boue]s. precium vj.s. .ij. st[i]rcas. precium .ij [.]s. .ij. quarter[ia] . . . . . .

PLATE XII, B

P. R. O. Subsidies (Exch. K.R.), Box 242, No. 127.

A. D. 1225.

The remarks made on the other specimen on this sheet apply almost equally to this, except the heading which, like some of the other documents found with these two, is of the normal type of the period. The hand, however, is a little more regular and less archaic.

Individual letters. Superior *a* has the usual line over. *i* is only accented to avoid confusion as in the numeral (l. 6). The final strokes of *m* and *n* are not generally produced. The top of *p* is closed. Medial *v* begins to occur, possibly, though not regularly, indicating a difference in sound (*boues* l. 25, *boviculum* l. 26).

Abbreviations. The *-er* sign is confined to its special meaning except with *d.* The Tironian *et* is not crossed.

There are no **ligatures**. Corrections are made by cancellation and the use of the **caret** mark.

Veredictum De Kelleby. /

Thomas Yol Johannes filius Gileberti. Radulfus filius Warini. Robertus filius Thome. et ada de Heidur'. Iurati / dicunt super sacramentum quod fecerunt quod Galfridus de Evermu habet .viii. boues et quilibet valet .iii.s. et / vnum taurum. et valet .iii.s.

et duas vaccas que valent .vi.s. et vnam vaccam que vix valet .x.d. / et duas equas que valent .vii.s. et vnum equm et valet .x.d. et viii. summas frumenti. et summa valet / xl.d.[1] et tres summas ordei. et summa valet iii.s. et .vii. summas et dimidiam vnde summa et dimidia de braseo ordei . . . . / iii.s. et .vi. summas de alio braseo. summa .xviii.d. et lxvi. oves et quelibet valet .viii.d. /

Summa. Quindecime .viii.s. et viii.d. et obolus /

Fivianus Bercarius habet .iiii. oves et quelibet valet .viii.d. Summa .xv .ii.d. /

Willelmus Sturdi habet duas oves et valent .xvi.d et duas pelles et valent .viii.d. Summa .iii. oboli. et quadrans. /

Agnes cameraria habet .vii. oves et quelibet valet .vi.d. Summa. Quindecime .ii.d. et .iii. quadrantes. /

Nicholaus filius Petri habet vnam vaccam et valet .iiii.s. et vnam Iuuencam que valet .xviii.d. et unum / equm et valet. iii.s. et .i. modulum ordei. et valet .iii.d. et .i. busellum frumenti et ordei et valet .vii.d. /

Summa. xv$^{a\ 2}$ .vii.d. et obolus /

Ricardus ad fontem habet vnum equm. et valet .iiii.s. et duos boves et valent .viii.s. et vnum bovem et / vix valet .ii.s. et vnam vaccam que valet .iii.s. et vnam aliam que valet .iii.s. et du[os] bo[v]iculos / et valent .ii.s. et xxxviii. oves. et quelibet valet .viii.d. et .ix. Ruscas et quelibet valet .x.d. / et duas summas Frumenti. et valent. dimidiam marcam.[3] et.[2] iiii. summas ordei. et summa valet .ii.s. et summam et dimidiam / ordei flagellati et summa[4] .ii.s. et dimidiam summam. brasii. et valet .ix.d. et .ii. summas auene. et valent .ii.s. / et summam et dimidiam pisarum et summa valet .xviii.d. Summa .xv$^{a\ 2}$ .v.s. et ii.d.[5]

Alicia filia Ricardi habet vnam vaccam. et valet .iii.s. et dimidiam summam auene. et valet .vi.d. Summa. xv$^{a\ 2}$ .ii d. et .iii. quadrantes /

Willelmus pastor habet vnam vaccam et valet .iii.s. dimidiam summam ordei. et valet .xii.d. Summa .xv$^{a\ 2}$ .iii.d. et quadrans. /

[Walte]rus de Rovcebi. habet vnum equm et valet .iiii.d. et .i. vaccam et i. Iuuencam et valent .v.s. / [et dim]idiam summam ordei et valet .xii.d. et .ix. oves et quelibet valet .viii.d. Summa .xv$^{a\ 2}$ .xii.d. et .iii. quadrantes. /

. . . . . cibus habet vnum equm et valet .iiii.s. et tres boues. quilibet valet .iii.s. et. duo[s] / . . . . . s. et vnum boviculum et valet xii.d. et xv. oves et quelibet

[1] *iii.s.* cancelled: the *d* above is very faint. [2] sic in MS.
[3] *vi.s.* cancelled. [4] *valet* omitted. [5] *iii oboli* cancelled.

valet. / . . . . . et val[et] . . . . . vi.d. et .v.
summas ordei et quelibet valet .ii.s. / . . . . . .
. . . . . d. . . . . i.s. et.
. . . . . /

PLATE XII, c

P. R. O. Ancient Correspondence, vol. I, No. 119.
A. D. 1218.
[Printed: Shirley, *Royal Letters*, vol. I, No. 15.]

This hand is somewhat less current than the other two, but more upright and with the horizontal element, which marks thirteenth-century handwriting, more fully developed. The tall letters are looped and the loops to some extent used as ties. Capitals are used as usual for emphasis.

Individual letters. *a* is headless. *B* shows signs of development into the later type resembling an *L* with an *h* inside it. *c* has taken the place of *t* before *i* and a vowel. *D* has a heavy diagonal stroke through the middle like the head of *d*. *f* and *s* only come slightly below the line. The lower bow of *g* is sometimes open, sometimes looped at a distance from the upper bow. Even double *ii* are not as a rule accented, the second *i* being produced. (*filio* l. 4, *habuimus* l. 8, are exceptions.) Note the *K* of *Karissimo* (as in the next example) (l. 1). *m* and *n* are mainly distinguished from *i* and *u* by the curvature of the final member, which comes below the line. The shoulder of *r* is half way down the stem, and the round form is only used after *o*. final *s* is once of the curved type but still very large (*dileccionis* l. 2). *t* is rounded and the stem sometimes projects slightly above the cross. *V* is only used as a capital (as in Plate IX c).

Abbreviations. The *-er* sign is used frequently as the common mark of contraction, but not for *-re*, for which superior *e* is used. Superior *a* has the customary horizontal line over it. The only **ligature** is *st*, but the bows of *de* are closely joined. The **punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons. A **mark of reference**, two dashes, occurs in line 4. There is a somewhat careless **erasure** in line 2, where *dideccionis* has been corrected to *dileccionis*.

Karissimo domino et amico suo Domino. Huberto. de Burgo Justiciario domini Regis Anglie. suus. Willelmus. Longespe Comes Saresberie / Salutem et dileccionis plenitudinem. Noueritis domine quod postquam a uobis recessimus de Scaccario domini. Regis. Literas / quasdam ex parte Comitis de Alba Mara recepi-

mus. in quibus continebatur quod crederemus[1] Latori Literarum cuidam Militi suo. / super hiis. que nobis ex parte sua exponeret. qui dixit nobis ex parte Comitis. quod confederacionem de filio nostro. et de filia sua. et omnes conuenciones inter nos / factas ; si nobis placeret quietas clammaret.[2] Ita quidem. quod Carte inter nos de confederacione et de conuencionibus facte / ex utraque parte reddantur. Quare discrecioni uestre et dileccioni significamus. quod si dictus Comes aliquid in terra domini nostri / Regis faciat quod facere non debeat; non stat per nos nec per consilium nostrum. et quia sigillum nostrum magnum nobiscum non. / habuimus sigillum nostrum secretum uobis mittimus. Valete.

PLATE XII, D

P. R. O. Ancient Correspondence, vol. I, No. 93.

A.D. 1217–26.

[Printed: Shirley, *Royal Letters*, vol. I, No. 251.]

This is a cursive hand of an early thirteenth-century type. The style is easy and current and almost careless, especially in *m*, *n*, and *u*. The tall letters are no longer notched or beaked, but looped or curved, and the heavy tops of the *d*s are noticeable. There is still some trace of the double curvature of the previous century.

Individual letters. Both types of *a* are used. *c* is distinct from *t*, which it is beginning to replace (*excellencie* l. 2). The heavy top of *d* tends to be looped. *f* comes below the line and the head has usually an ornamental flourish. The lower bow of *g* is closed, and the horizontal tie is lower than the top of the upper bow. *H* here adopts a form almost indistinguishable from that hitherto used for *N*. *i* initial (and sometimes final) is long, and single *i* is only occasionally accented (*imminere* l. 4). Note the use of *K* for *C* (*Karissimo* l. 1). *r* is made with one stroke of the pen, the stem being replaced by a loop. *s* comes below the line and the long form is used even for *s* final. *u* is almost indistinguishable from *n*, and *v* only occurs as a capital.

Abbreviations. The straight dash and the symbol for *-er* are used indifferently. Suspensions have largely been replaced by contractions. The Tironian *et* is crossed.

Ligatures. *st* and *pp* occur, and the curves of *d* and *e* are not separated.

Punctuation is by full stops only.

Domino et Amico Karissimo. Huberto. de Burgo Justiciario Anglie suus miles Fulco filius Garini se ipsum cum salute. /

[1] There is a contraction mark through the head of the *d*.

[2] An unnecessary contraction mark over the *a*.

Excellencie uestre Dilectum[1] Consanguineum nostrum Magistrum. Reginaldum. de Dunstanuilla transmittimus supplicantes ut / firmam fidem habere uelitis hiis que discretioni uestre super maritagio filii nostri et filie .M. filii Grifini. / proposuerit. pro certo habentes quod Lewelinus illud pro posse suo impedit quia uidet dampnum sibi inde imminere et / Commodum domino Regi. Si placet tantum inde faciatis ut nos qui uestri sumus uobis teneamur obnoxiores. Valete.

PLATE XIII, A

P. R. O. Curia Regis Roll, No. 102, m. 7.

A.D. 1229.

This should be compared with Plates IX A and B. It is a well developed early thirteenth-century Court-hand of a very cursive type. It is characterized by increased emphasis in the horizontal elements of the hand, the marks of abbreviation, and the tails of the *g*s and *s*s, as also the diagonal down-strokes of the *d*s and the *-er* contraction marks. It is written with a slanted pen and the tall letters are usually looped and provided with a leading flourish, the combination of which characters produces the floreation which marks hands of this period.

Individual letters. The headed form of *a* is emphatic and the head is often turned over to form an upper bow; note the running capital *A*, and the headless *a* made in the same way (*defaltam* l. 13). *c* begins to be confused with *t*, the distinction between the sloping top of the former and the straight top of the latter being less strictly kept: before *i* and a vowel *c* has completely superseded *t*. *d* is always looped and the down-stroke is emphatic. *f* and *s* are mostly above the line. The lower bow of *g* is closed and very large, stretching under the line: the bow of *h* does not come below the line. Single *i* is not accented. *m* and *n* are not clearly distinguished from *i* and *u*. The fork of *r* is about half way down the stem, which is sometimes looped (*Trenuuet* l. 10). Final *s* continues long. *S* has a large bow under the line like *g* and is on the way to develop into the *m*-like *S* of the latter part of the century. *t* usually, but not always, has the stem protruding above the cross. *v* is sometimes used initially but may be regarded as a semi-capital. *y* is used sometimes, taking the place of *i* (*cyrographum* l. 43). *z* is of the short type (*Cauz*, *Aliz* l. 11).

Abbreviations, especially contractions, are frequent, all the usual forms being employed. Note the special sign ÷ for *est* (l. 5). *Pre-* is represented by all three forms: the *-er* hook (*predictarum* l. 23), the line over the *p* (*presentauit* l. 31), and the superior *e* (*predictam* l. 32). The symbol for *-rum* is only used after *o*.

[1] The writer has written *et* and changed it into *D*.

The only **ligature** is *st*, but the bows of *d* and *e* are joined.
The **punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons.
A **paragraph mark** like two *o*s is used. The usual **caret** mark supplies an omission (l. 20). A margin has been **ruled.**

Kent ℙ Cecilia que fuit uxor Henrici aurifabri[1] petit uersus Stephanum Haringot. medietatem xxj. Acrarum terre cum pertinenciis In Pateringeburne et medietatem / j. mesnagii cum pertinenciis In Cantuaria ut dotem suam et Cetera. /

Et Stephanus venit et petit inde uisum habeat.[2] Dies datus est eis a die sancti Michaelis In tres septimanas et Interim faciat et Cetera. /

Oxonia ℙ Radulfus filius Nicholai per attornatum. suum optulit se .iiij. die uersus Hugonem de Doddingesell' per placitum quare fecit vastum uenditionem. et destructionem de / boscis et hominibus felicie filie et heredibus.[3] Radulfi de Limesey in Hennewella. que infra etatem est[4] et In custodia Radulfi filii Nicholai / de dono domini Regis dum terra eiusdem[5] felicie fuit In custodia domini Regis post mortem[6] .Eustachii. Londoniensis Episcopi et Cetera. Et Hugo non uenit / et Cetera. et fuit attachiatus per Alexandrum. de Bradewella et Radulfum Hert. Et ideo ponatur per meliores plegios. quod sit die dominica proxima post / Ascensionem domini. Et primi[7] et Cetera /

Devonia ℙ Osbertus Percehaie qui peciit ix. marcas et viij. solidos.[8] de debito Willelmi de Torintuna uersus Henricum de Meretuna et Henricum filium / Willelmi. et Ricardum de Trenuuet[9] venit et cognouit quod satisfecerunt ei. et Ideo inde sine die /

Norhumbria. ℙ Johannes de Cauz et Alina uxor eius[10] Jacobus de Cauz

[1] The superior *i* is confused with the upper loop of the *b*.
[2] The writing is confused, and there is a stroke too many after the *uisum* which may represent a stop.
[3] A blunder for *heredis*. *Radulfi*: in default of other evidence here extended with *f*.
[4] Note the abbreviation for *est*.
[5] The word is badly written; it consists of *ei*, the special sign for *-us*, and a badly written *d* struck through.
[6] Note singularly bad *r*.
[7] The first pledges are amerced.
[8] *ol* of *sol'* is rather like *ob* (*obolos*).
[9] This name can only be guessed at.
[10] It is impossible to say exactly what is written here, but probably the scribe meant to write *eius* in full and then abbreviated it too late; compare the following *eius*.

et Aliz uxor eius summoniti fuerunt ad faciendum Henrico de Canne et Felicie / uxori eius excambium. ad ualorem. iij. partis uillarum de Estbrichteshala.[1] Crumcliue et Burlawe cum pertinenciis. quas Albretha / que fuit uxor Ade de Burlawe recuperauit uersus Hugonem de Baillol per defaltam ipsius Hugonis et quas tercias partes Idem Henricus / et Felicia warantizabunt eidem Willelmo[2] et vnde idem Henricus et Felicia uocauerunt predictos Johannem et Alinam iacobum et Aliz / ad warantum. /

Et Johannes venit et Alina non uenit. set Johannes manucaptor habendi eam et Cetera. Et Jacobus et Aliz per attornatum Aliz uenit / et cognouerunt quod non fecerunt excambium. quia[3] non habuerunt excambium. de Hugone de Baillol quem uocauerunt ad warantum. Et ideo consideratum est / quod uicecomes habeat corpus Johannis de Baillol filii et heredis predicti Hugonis ad faciendum excambium predictis Johanni et Aline Jacobo et A/licie sicut illud recuperaverunt. uersus predictum Hugonem patrem suum A die sancti Michaelis In tres septimanas. /

Norfolchia ℙ G.[ilebertus] de. Clara. Comes Gloucestrie summonitus fuit ad respondendum[4] Hugoni. de Sancto Philiberto. quare non permittat eum presentare idoneam personam[5] / ad Ecclesias de Caldicota. et Seingham que uacant et Cetera vnde idem dicit quod totum manerium In quo Ecclesie ille site sunt et ad quod Ecclesie ille pertinent/est ipsius Hugonis. Et ideo dicit quod idem Comes Impedit eum Iniuste et Cetera./

Et Comes per Attornatum suum uenit et dicit quod iuste impedit. quia aduocationes predictarum Ecclesiarum ad ipsum pertinent. Quia dicit quod Comes Rogerus antecessor eius / assignauit antecessori istius Hugonis .xxx. libratas. terre cum pertinentiis In Taxsteda donec alibi ei prouideret de xxx. libratis. terre. Ita quod Comes Ricardus filius predicti Rogeri / Comitis. postea dedit Ricardo de Sancto Philiberto. Auunculo istius Hugonis .xxx. libratas. terre cum pertinentiis In Welles. Retentis sibi. aduocationibus ecclesiarum. / Ita quod idem Ricardus Comes ante assignationem illam presentauit Clericum ad Ecclesiam de

[1] The *b* might easily be read as *h*.

[2] It is impossible to understand the case without further knowledge. William has not previously been mentioned.

[3] Observe the difference between the special signs for *quia* and *quod*.

[4] Observe the contraction of *respondendum*.

[5] The *per* sign is irregularly made.

Caldicota. Robertum de Clara. nomine. et qui ad presentationem / eius admissus fuit. et qui ultimo obiit Inde persona et Cetera. Et post assignationem. illam presentauit. eumdem. Robertum ad Ecclesiam de Seingham. qui similiter obiit / Inde ultimo persona. et hac ratione Impedit presentationem. eiusdem Hugonis quare[1] dicit quod predicte aduocationes ad eum pertinent. /

Et Hugo dicit quod Comes Iniuste impedit. quia aduocationes ille ad eum pertinent. quia re uera. comes Rogerus dedit[2] Ricardo de Luscy antecessori suo .xxx. / libratas terre cum pertinentiis In Acsteda. Et postea comes Ricardus dedit ei In excambium .xxx. libratas terre cum pertinentiis In Welles. Ita quod nichil retinuit nec aduocationes nec / aliud nisi tantum seruitium cuiusdam Petri. ad cuius tenementum.[3] aduocatio nulla pertinet. Et bene concedit quod idem Ricardus ante assignationem illam vltimo presentauit predictum[4] / Robertum. ad utramque Ecclesiam. Ita quod predictam Ecclesiam de Caldicota tenuit In manu sua Integre Et aliam Ecclesiam de Seingham dimisit cuidam / uicario Ita quod pensionem inde percepit de eadem ante assignationem illam. Et post assignationem ultimam quando idem uicarius obiit. recepit idem Robertus Ecclesiam de Se/ingham.[5] /

Et Comes dicit quod post excambium. illud presentauit ipse Robertum ad Ecclesiam de Seingham. Ita quod Johannes. quondam Norwicensis Episcopus eum ad eandem admisit / Et Inde profert litteras patentes eiusdem Episcopi que hoc testantur. Et preterea dicit quod idem Hugo non est heres Ricardi de sancto philiberto cui excambium illud factum fuit / quia idem Ricardus habuit quendam fratrem Rogerum nomine. qui habuit quandam filiam que adhuc uiuit. Et desicut Idem Hugo cognoscit. quod Comes Ricardus presentauit / ultimo[6] ad Ecclesias illas et nichil[7] ostendit quod concessisset aduocationes illas Simul cum predicta terra ; petit Judicium si debeat ei Inde respondere. desicut /

[1] The special sign is *q* abbreviated with a superior *a*. The scribe seems to have hesitated between *quare* and *quia*.
[2] The following *ei* has been crossed out by the scribe.
[3] The following *illa* is underlined for deletion.
[4] Note superior *e*.
[5] The bottom flourish of the *S* is very faint.
[6] The *o* is very like an *e* : but *ultimo* is the form used above.
[7] The *c* is badly formed.

non est heres predicti Ricardi de Sancto Philiberto. Et preterea dicit quod predictus comes retinuit sibi In eadem uilla de Welles iiij^{xx}.[1] acras. terre simul cum / aduocationibus. /

Ad iudicium

Et Hugo dicit quod est heres Ricardi de Sancto Philiberto. quia fuit filius filii ipsius Ricardi primogeniti.[2] Et hoc bene patet quia postea in curia domini Regis apud / Westmonasterium recuperauit manerium illud de Welles cum pertinentiis uersus Rogerum de Sancto Philiberto patrem illius domicelle de qua ipsi loquuntur per finem Inter / eos factum. In eadem Curia. Et profert cyrographum. quod hoc testatur. Et quod predictus Comes Ricardus dedit terram de Seingham et de Caldicota ipsi Ricardo. cum / aduocationibus predictarum Ecclesiarum et cum omnibus aliis pertinentiis. Excepto seruicio predicti Petri offert probare per corpus[3] cuiusdam liberi hominis sui Simonis nomine / qui hoc offert probare. per corpus suum sicut ille qui interfuit apud Welles ubi predictus Comes Ricardus dedit terram illam Godefrido de Luscy In excambium pre/dictarum[4] terrarum cum predictis aduocationibus. Et offert domino Regi dimidiam Marcam. persic[5] quod fiat Inquisitio: Si predictus Comes Ricardus ecclesiam illam dedit ante / assignationem illam uel non. Vel si hoc non sufficit ponit se super patriam. /

Et Comes dicit. quod predictus Comes. Ricardus. numquam[6] concessit eidem Godefrido de Luscy predictam terram cum aduocationibus illarum ecclesiarum. set Sibi retinuit / aduocationes et quod ita sit offert defendere per Corpus cuiusdam liberi hominis sui. Galfridi de Langeduna nomine qui hoc offert defendere sicut Curia / considerauerit quod duellum iaceat. Et Comes requisitus[7] si uoluerit ponere se super patriam; dicit quod non quia summonitus fuit ad respondendum quare Impedit. et / ipse sufficienter ostendit quare. Et quia Hugo cognouit quod Comes ultimo presentauit et nichil ostendit quod Comes postea predictas aduocationes / ei concesserat;[8] Consideratum est Quod

[1] The scribe began by writing *xxiiij.*
[2] The extension is doubtful. *Primogenitus* is equally likely.
[3] The contraction for *corpus* is peculiar as the *p* is entirely omitted.
[4] The word is divided between the two lines.
[5] A curious combination.
[6] There seems to be one minim too much in this word.
[7] *Dicit* written and struck out after *requisitus.*
[8] Note curiously formed semicolon after *concesserat.*

Miseri-cordia.

comes remaneat In Seisina sua saluo iure cuiuslibet et Hugo In misericordia. Et Comes habeat breue / ad episcopum et Cetera.

PLATE XIII, B

P. R. O. Miscellanea (Chancery), Ble. 27, No. 1, m. 18.

A. D. 1265.

This is a good example of well developed thirteenth-century 'Court-hand'. The writing is almost completely current, even the abbreviations being joined on to the letters to which they belong or to other letters near them: the tops of the tall letters are looped and floreated. The capitals are a good deal ornamented, and the writing as a whole is regular and well formed. The horizontal element is less prominent than in the earlier part of the century, and there is a certain inclination to wedge-shaped down-strokes. The pen is held straight or very slightly slanted.

Individual letters. Headed *a* predominates and the head is turned over to form a distinct upper bow; the down-stroke no longer comes below the line. *A* is of the running type (*Anglie* l. 2). *B* has definitely assumed a very narrow head and low waist (*Blethyin* l. 25). *c* is indistinguishable from *t* as the flat head is often brought back behind the stem, which not infrequently projects (*ceteris* l. 2). *d* is looped with a heavy curved down-stroke. *f* and *s* come below the line and have flourished heads. *g* consists of two almost equal bows; the tie is not emphatic. The bow of *h* does not usually come below the line. *i* is usually accented and the second *i* of *ii* produced (l. 23). *m* and *n* frequently have a crook in the last stroke, but are not otherwise well distinguished from *i* and *u*. *M* is of the uncial type with a flourish under the line. The shoulder of *r* is very slight but springs from low down, the letter being little more than a forked line: the round form is used after bowed letters such as *p*, as well as after *o* (*prius* l. 23). *R* is made with one stroke of the pen and chiefly distinguished by its horizontal 'tie'; it differs from *K* in having no leading flourish. Round *s* is very freely used in the middle of words. *S* is of the 'beaver-tailed' or 'mumpsimus' form which is so characteristic of the latter half of the 13th century. *u* is used as a medial and *v* as an initial, with some exceptions (*uel* l. 1). *w* has now a regular form somewhat resembling *bb*. Sloped *y* is used occasionally for *i* (*ydoneo* l. 5).

Abbreviations. Suspensions have to a considerable extent given place to contractions; the usual sign for both is the slightly curved horizontal line, but the *-er* sign is also used.

Ligatures. Note the reappearance of the ligatures *ct* (*inspecturis* l. 1) and *st* (*illustris* l. 2). The bows of rounded letters are frequently joined e. g. *predictum* (l. 3), *hoc* (l. 4), *bonam* (l. 15).

Punctuation. An oblique dash serves the purpose of a comma (l. 4); the longer pauses are indicated by semicolons and full stops. No **hyphen** is used.

PLATE XIII, c

P. R. O. Miscellaneous Inquisitions (Chancery), File 27, No. 32.

A.D. 1270.

The general remarks on the previous specimen are fairly applicable to this, allowance being made for the hasty writing. It is, however, a little more archaic in appearance and much less well proportioned, the horizontal contraction marks being very prominent.

Individual letters. Except as an abbreviation *a* has the head brought over to form an upper bow: *A* is of the running type. *B* is completely current, resembling *lb* looped together. *c*, though it has a form of its own, is not clearly distinguished from *t*. *d* is usually looped and the heavy down-stroke of the head is very oblique and somewhat curved. *D* has a curious form resembling *R* (cf. *Ricardus* and *Dunleghe* l. 2). *f* and *s* come well below the line and are not flourished at the head. The lower bow of *g* is either triangular, or extended horizontally under the line as in the earlier part of the century (*gentes* l. 18). Note the resemblance of *G* to *T*, from which it principally differs in the top not being extended to the left (cf. *Tunebregge* l. 8, *Glouernie* l. 9). The bow of *h* is curled under the line. Note the resemblance of *H* and *N*. *i* is usually accented. *m* and *n* are not distinguished from *i* and *u* except by the accent on *i*. The rounded *r* is used after any bowed letter (*Brac.* l. 3). *s* initial or final is usually of the round form, the long *s* being used medially. *S* has several forms, including that described in the last specimen. *v* initial and *u* medial are the rule. *y* is used freely for *i* (*wysicomes* l. 7); it is made with a loop like *r* and sometimes divided all the way to the tail.

Abbreviations. The common sign is a horizontal line taken on from the end of the word, the sign for *-er* is similarly used. Note the **ligatures** *ct* (*ductus* l. 9) and *st* (*crastino* l. 11). Bowed letters are frequently closely joined (*Robertus* l. 3, *Langeporte* l. 24).

A **paragraph mark** of the *ss* type is used; the **punctuation** is otherwise by full stops.

Observe the way in which additions have been written in, especially in l. 6.

℗ Veredictum Hundredi de Samele /

Thomas Hareng. Ricardus de Fraxino. Henricus Scoti. Willelmus de Dunleghe. Stoning de Hecgham / Radulphus de prato. Robertus de lenee. Alanus Brac. Robertus Wic. Walterus le Rughe. Walterus ate Hachche / Alanus ate Pirie Juratores dicunt

quod dominus Willelmus de Montechansii captus fuit apud Kenigewrthe / et dominus Robertus de Munteni seysiuit terram suam de Wicham. et illa terra valet per annum .C. solidos cum Redditu / vnius Marce ejusdem Manerii ad festum Sancti michaelis. Item venit ricardus de Halstede et seiysiuit eandem terram in manu / comitis Glouernie[.] Wysicomes seysyiuit terram de Wickam in manu domini regis in vigilia Michaelis. /

℗ Dominus Willelmus de Apeldrefeld seysiuit terram domini Nicolai de Ores Catalla et Bladam. et idem dominus Nicolaus / captus fuit per dictum dominum Willelmum et ductus ad Castrum de Tunebregge et ibi detentus quousque[1] deliberatus / fuit per quasdam litteras inquisicionis de domino Comite Glouernie videlicet per sacramentum duodecim legalium / [hominum] et habuit seysinam terre sue in crastino Natiuitatis sancte Marie et dicunt quod predictus dominus Nicolaus arma / non gerit contra dominum Regem et contra dominum comitem nec suos. Valorem terre sue .x. libras per annum. Redditus dicte terre / de termino sancti michaelis non sufficit ad redditum suum soluendum. Item dicunt quod Thomas de Shorne allutarius Londoniarum / habuit .ij. acras. et valent per annum .ij.s. Item Johannes Attestone cordelarius Londoniarum habuit .j. acram terre et dimidiam. et valet per annum .xviijd. /

℗ Walterus Draco seysiuit terram Henrici de Dunlega per preceptum Conestabularii Tonebreggie pro eo quod / intelligit se arma gerisse contra dominum Regem et contra dominum Comitem et suos et dicunt juratores quod idem / Henricus arma non gerit contra dominum Regem nec dominum Comitem nec suos et ideo seysinam per ipsum factam super dictum / Henricum † factum †[2] penitus relaxauit. Valorem terre sue .iij. Marcas annuatim Item venerunt gentes domini eadwardi / et seisiuerunt eandem terram die veneris proxima post festum sancti micaelis. Et adhuc detinent. /

℗ Johannes dictus le Moyne Habuit ad firmam Manerium de Westcliue a monachiis Cantuarie. venit / Willelmus de lagarst'[3] per dominum Comitem Glouernie et cepit seisinam dicti Manerii et fecit[4] / triturare Bladam et vendere. valorem[5] ejusdem † ejusdem ejusdem † Manerii .iiij^{xx}. libras. Et non est redditus / pertinens ad dictam firmam. quia Monachi retinuerunt redditum ad opus suum proprium. /

[1] *quousque*, note the unusual abbreviation.
[2] *factum* apparently inserted by mistake.
[3] *lagarst*, *r* altered from *s*.
[4] A word cancelled.
[5] *valorem* altered from *valenciam*.

℗ Warda Lucasii de langeporte. Broke seysitum fuit per Ricardum de Haltstede ad opus domini / Comitis et dicunt juratores quod idem Lucasius arma non gerit contra dominum regem nec dominum / † dominum † Comitem[1] nec suos Sollectores[2] Hujus reditus Henricus scad. Ricardus atte Nokes de Calke.[3]

PLATE XIV

P. R. O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 42, m. 3.

A. D. 1232.

The general character of the handwriting in this plate is similar to that of Plate XIII A, but it is more rapid and in some ways more advanced in type. The horizontal strokes in particular are more conspicuous. It should be compared with the previous Chancery facsimile (Plate X A).

Individual letters. The running capital *A* is now well established (*Archidiaconi* l. 12), though the older form is not extinct (*Atlonia* l. 39): small *a* seems frequently to present an intermediate form between the headed and the headless varieties. The lower bow of *g* is very small and closed: the bow of *h* often comes below the line. *i* is occasionally accented, to distinguish it from *u* (*Radecliue* l. 9) or when doubled (*scaccarii* l. 25). The open-topped *p* is still occasionally found (*placuerit* l. 28). The shoulder of *r* is spread out and the stem sometimes looped; the round form is used not only after *o* but after letters with bows (*breui* l. 45—cf. Plate XIII B). Final *s* is now usually of the rounded form: the stem of *t* does not usually come above the cross. *u* and *v* are used indifferently as initials, but *u* only as medial.

Abbreviations. The *-er* sign, though sometimes used to indicate a suspension, is usually employed in its strict sense. The *-rum* sign is now also employed after *a* (*trecentarum* l. 14). The Tironian *et* is not crossed.

The only **ligature,** besides *st*, is *ct*, which reappears in this hand (*conductu* l. 21).

Alterations are made by **cancellation** (l. 10), **caret** marks (l. 16), and a double dash as a mark of reference (l. 39).

Punctuation is made by paragraph marks, full stops, and semicolons.

De castro et villa de Merleberghe—— ℗ Rex commisit Petro de Rivallis etcetera castrum et villam de Merleberghe et castrum et villam de Lutegareshale et domos Regis de Clarendona cum foresta ad domos illas pertinente / et domos Regis de Gillingham cum custodia parci et manerii de Gillingham et omnibus pertinentiis suis

[1] *com* has been repeated and crossed out.

[2] for *Collectores.*

[3] *Radulfus franceis* cancelled.

custodienda toto tempore vite sue. In cuius etcetera. Teste Rege apud Lamhithe .xx.[1] die Iulii. /

pro Matilde de Warham——℔ Rex commisit et concessit Matildi de Warham domum illam in Portesmue cum pertinentiis que fuit Willelmi de Wika Normanni habendam et tenendam toto tempore vite sue / faciendo seruicium Regi inde debitum. In cuius etcetera. Teste ut supra. /

De Rotunda tabula prohibenda ——℔ Rex omnibus fidelibus suis qui conuenturi sunt ad Rotundam tabulam salutem. Cum simus in itinere uersus partes Salopie colloquium habituri cum Lewelino. principe de Abbefrau et domino de Snaudona / vobis mandamus firmiter iniungentes in fide qua nobis tenemini quod tempestiue nos sequentes nullatenus ad predictam tabulam conuenientes turneare presumatis contra hanc prohibitionem / nostram scituri pro certo quod si feceritis ita grauiter ad corpora et catalla uestra non[2] capiemus ; quod vos et vestri vos sentietis inde in posterum grauatos et preterea non permittemus quod dece/tero torneetis in terra nostra. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xx. die Iulii. /

pro quodam capellano de Hibernia——℔ Rex dedit pluries in mandatis Iusticiariis suis[3] Hibernie qui iusticiarii extiterunt in hibernia quod quamcito oportunitas se offerret prouidere[n]t Willelmo de Radecliue capellano ministranti in capella castri / Dublini xv. marcatas redditus in ecclesiastico beneficio ad ipsum capellanum sustentandum in Seruicio Regis. set mandatum Regis in hac parte hucusque non sunt executi. Et mandatum est[4] etcetera Iusticiario[5] / Hibernie quod quamcito contigerit beneficium aliquod ecclesiasticum ad Regis spectans donacionem de valore xv. marcarum in hibernia vacare ; predicto capellano illud habere faciat de dono Regis. /

De presentatione——℔ Magister Nicholaus capellanus penitentiarius. habet. literas directas Officiali Archidiaconi Cantuariensis de presentatione ad penitentiariam de Suthmelling' cum ecclesia S' de Stanmere que vacat etcetera ratione Archi/episcopatus Cantuariensis. /

pro vxore que fuit Nigelli de Mobray——℔ Rex gratum habet et acceptum finem trecentarum marcarum quem Matildis que fuit vxor Nigelli de Mubray fecit cum Huberto. de Burgo etcetera quod libere et sine occasione maritare se possit / cui voluerit vel viuere sine marito si maluerit. concedit eciam dominus Rex quod eadem matildis non obstante aliqua concessione sua quam aliquo tempore fecit alicui de eius maritagio / licite se maritare possit cui

[1] *xx.* ; *xxviij* erased.
[2] *non*, presumably a mistake for *nos.*
[3] *suis*, corrected from *suo.*
[4] *H. de Burgo* cancelled.
[5] *Anglie et* cancelled.

voluerit. ita tamen quod ille qui ipsam duxerit in vxorem ; sit ad fidem domini Regis vel quod viuere possit sine marito si se maritari noluerit. Teste Rege / apud Lamhethe xxj. die Iulii. /

De protectione——℔ fratres Hospitalis sancti Leonardi de Kingestona habent literas de protectione patentes sine termino cum clausula Rogamus etcetera. /

De Recepto thesauro Hibernie——℔ Rex recepit per manum Willelmi de Putot a Georgio de fuble Mille et ducentas marcas de thesauro Hibernie. quem Ricardus de Burgo Regi misit in Angliam. In cuius etcetera / fieri fecimus. Teste Rege apud Kenetonam xxiij. die Iulii. /

De protectione——℔ Robertus de Twenge habet literas de protectione patentes et de conductu in veniendo ad Regem ad loquendum cum eo et morando et recedendo. et durant usque ad festum Sancti Michaelis anno etcetera xvj°. / Teste Rege apud Radinges xxvj. die Iulii.

℔ Consimiles literas habet Magister R. de Shardelawe sine termino. /

℔ Leprose hospitalis sancte Marie Magdalene de Neubir' habent literas de protectione patentes sine termino. cum clausula Rogamus etcetera. /

[1] Hibernia de thesauraria et cameraria Hibernie——℔ Rex Huberto de Burgo Comiti Kancie et Iusticiario suo Anglie et Hibernie salutem. Sciatis nos concessisse pro nobis et heredibus nostris dilecto. et fideli. nostro. Petro de Riuallis Capicerio pictauiensi quod toto tempore vite sue habeat thesaurariam / et camerariam
R Scaccarii nostri Hibernie cum omnibus pertinenciis libertatibus. et liberis consuetudinibus ad easdem thesaurariam et camerariam pertinentibus. Ita scilicet quod si forte contingat quod idem petrus statum suum mutauerit per vocatio/nem ad ecclesiasticam dignitatem uel honorem secularem laicalem ; nichilominus sit thesaur[ar]ius et camerarius noster Scaccarii nostri Hibernie. per assignatum suum ad hoc nobis presentatum sufficientem et idoneum/ ita quod ille quem idem Petrus assignauerit ad custodiam predictarum Thesaurarie et Camerarie in receptione earundem faciat nobis fidelitatem quod predictas Thesaurariam et Camerariam loco ipsius Petri tota uita sua / fideliter custodiet cum hiis que ad predictas Thesaurariam et Camerariam pertinent quamdiu eidem Petro placuerit et quod omnes [2] seruientes et ministri de officiis predictis subsint eidem Petro et ei sint inde intendentes et respon-

[1] The whole of this entry (ll. 24–41) is in a small and very bad hand: the writer seems to have been short of space.

[2] Note the very bad round final *s*.

den/tes toto tempore uite sue et quod eos possit amouere et loco eorum alios substituere cum uoluerit et quod habeat toto tempore uite sue quendam clericum nobis fidelem ad Scaccarium nostrum Hibernie de recepta qui habeat vnum rotulum / de thesauro nostro ibidem recepto contra alios rotulos eiusdem Scaccarii [1] qui eciam ad magnum Scaccarium nostrum loco ipsius Petri resideat et intersit ad fines recipiendos cum Iusticiario nostro Hibernie qui per eundem Iusticiarium capi possint / sine precepto nostro et inde habeat vnum rotulum contra predictum Iusticiarium. Ita quod nullus finis capiatur per eundem Iusticiarium sine ipso clerico Volumus eciam quod idem clericus intersit per se uel per aliquem clericum loco suo omnibus assisis capiendis apud Dublinum / et alibi in terra nostra hibernie. Ita quod idem clericus uel eius assignatus habeat vnum rotulum contra rotulos Iusti[ci]ariorum nostrorum qui pro loco et tempore assignandi sunt ad predictas assisas capiendas. Concessimus eciam eidem Petro pro nobis et heredibus / nostris quod toto tempore uite sue habeat prisam vinorum nostrorum faciendam in hibernia per se uel per assignatum suum ad respondendum inde nobis et heredibus nostris per rectas consuetudines pertinentes ad predictam prisam ad Scaccarium nostrum hibernie et quod / toto tempore uite sue per se uel per assignatos suos fieri faciat apud Dublinum et in omnibus aliis ferriis hibernie emptiones nostras ad denarios nostros de omnibus que emi continget ad opus nostrum. Concessimus eciam eidem Petro pro nobis et / heredibus nostris quod habeat toto tempore uite sue custodiam Iudaismi nostri hibernie. Ita quod omnes iudei hibernie sint ei intendentes et respondentes tamquam custodi suo de omnibus que ad nos pertinent. Concessimus eciam eidem Petro pro nobis et / heredibus nostris quod habeat toto tempore uite sue custodiam omnium portuum nostrorum et tocius marine nostre in hibernia cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad predictorum portuum et marine nostre custodiam pertinentibus ad respondendum / de exitibus predictorum portuum et marine ad Scaccarium nostrum hibernie. Concessimus eciam eidem Petro pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod habeat toto tempore uite sue custodiam omnium esscaetarum et wardarum nostrarum cum acciderint per totam terram / nostram hibernie ad respondendum inde ad Scaccarium nostrum hibernie et quod habeat toto tempore uite sue cambium nostrum hibernie custodiendum per se uel per assignatos suos cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad predictum cambium pertinentibus / ad respondendum ad Scaccarium nostrum hibernie de proficuo

[1] *Scaccarii*: the scribe has apparently written *Scaccarium* (*Sccm*) and has tried to cancel the last minim of the *m*.

eiusdem cambii. Concessimus eciam eidem Petro pro nobis et heredibus nostris custodiam castrorum nostrorum de Atlonia et de Drogheda cum pertinentiis suis habendam toto tempore uite sue / cum castro nostro de Randonia in Connatia et[1] / cum quinque cantredis nostris de Connoct que retinuimus ad opus nostrum quando terram de Connoct concessimus dilecto et fideli nostro Ricardo de Burgo. Et ideo uobis mandamus quod eidem petro. de omnibus predictis sine dilacione plenam saisinam habere faciatis / Teste Rege apud Wudestokam xxviij. die Iulii. /

Hibernia de pluribus commissis Petro de Riuallis——℗ Scribitur eciam Baronibus de Scaccario Hibernie per eadem uerba; usque huc. ad predictas assisas capiendas. et postea sic. Et ideo uobis mandamus quod eidem Petro in omnibus que ad predictas thesaurariam et camerariam / Scaccarii nostri Hibernie pertinent intendentes sitis et respondentes sicut predictum est. Teste ut supra /

℗ Scribitur etiam omnibus ad quos etcetera de prisa vinorum et de custodia omnium escaetarum et wardarum et de cambio Hibernie. per uerba ut supra in magno breui. In cuius etcetera. /

℗ Scribitur eciam balliuis de portubus et marina Hibernie. quod eidem Petro uel assignato suo in omnibus etcetera sint intendentes et respondentes. /

℗ Et similiter scribitur omnibus Iudeis per Hiberniam constitutis quod eidem petro vel assignato suo de omnibus etcetera sint intendend' [*sic*] etcetera /

℗ Et H. de Burgo Iusticiario etcetera Hibernie scribitur de Castris de Atlonia et de Drogheda et de Reddona cum v. cantredis ibidem; quod predictus Iusticiarius ei liberet castra predicta. /

℗ Scribitur eciam omnibus etcetera quod Rex commisit eidem petro. custodiam omnium archiepiscopatuum et episcopatuum hibernie cum eos vacare contigerit habendam toto tempore vite sue. In cuius etcetera. /

Pro Waltero de Euermue——℗ Mandatum est Petro de Riuallis quod quamcito oportunitatem habuerit prouideat Waltero de Euermuth' in triginta uel quatraginta libratis[2] terre de esscaetis ad ipsum sustentandum in seruicio Regis In cuius etcetera / Teste Rege apud Oxoniam xxviij. die Iulii anno Sextodecimo /

pro Thoma de Burneham——℗ [3] Mandatum est eidem quod quamcicius oportunitas se optulerit prouideat Thome de Burnham in decem libratis terre de esscaetis uel Wardis ad se sustentandum in seruicio Regis. In cuius etcetera / Teste ut supra /

De protectione——℗ Prior hospitalis de Hungerfordia habet

[1] Interlineation from *cum castro.* [2] *marcatis* cancelled.
[3] *Consimiles* cancelled before *Mandatum.*

literas de protectione patentes sine termino cum clausula Rogamus etcetera. /

De clausura Ville Oxonie——℔ Terminus consuetudinis capiende ad villam Oxonie claudendam prorogatur usque in tres annos a festo sancti Michaelis anno etcetera xvj°. /

PLATE XV

P. R. O. Receipt Roll (Exchequer of Receipt), No. 10, m. 1.

A. D. 1233.

This is a somewhat formal but well developed thirteenth-century hand. The letters though well joined are not quite current. The tall letters are usually floreated and the capitals are ornamental. The writing is of the upright type.

Individual letters. The headless *a* tends to have its stem vertical and to come a little below the line. The headed *a* curls round to form an upper loop, sometimes quite separate from the lower one. *A* is of the running type. *B* has the waist brought gradually lower and the top bow made narrower, thus forming the usual later type (*Burgensibus Bedefordie* col. 2, l. 3, cf. *Basincurt* col. 3, l. 4). *f* and *s* come very slightly below the line. Both bows of *g* are closed and nearly equal in size. Single *i* is occasionally accented (*Tinekere* col. 3, l. 27). *m* and *n* are still distinguishable from *i* and *u*. *o*, when carelessly written, is very like *a* (*London* col. 3, l. 32). *r* does not come below the line, and the shoulder begins from the foot of the stem, which is not looped; the round form is only used after *o*. Final *s* is sometimes and initial *s* is often of the round type. *t* sometimes has a high stem much above the cross (*Aldewartuna* col. 1, l. 30), which, as distinguished from the top of *c*, comes well behind the stem: *t* still survives before *i* and a vowel (*inquisitionem* col. 1, l. 30). *v* is initial and *u* medial. *y* is used freely for *i* (*Kyrkeham* col. 3, l. 20). *z* is of the short type.

Abbreviations. Suspensions are numerous. The common sign is a slightly curved stroke, sometimes replaced, e.g. with *f* by the *-er* sign. The *-rum* termination is found after *a* (*terrarum* col. 1, l. 27). The only **ligature** is *st*, but the bow of *d* is closely joined with *e* and *o*.

The **punctuation** is entirely by full stops. The roll has been **ruled** into lines and columns.

[Column 1.]

℔ Norfolk' Suffolk'.

De Roberto de Brus' vicecomite.

De Roberto Monacho .xxxij. marce de fine.

De eodem. x. marce pro duobus palefridis

De. Thoma. Norwicensi Episcopo .C. lxvj.li. j. marca. de fine pro libertatibus habendis.

De Willelmo de Kentewell' .C.s de fine et scutagio.
De Willelmo Blundo .xlvj.s. viij.d. de prestito Hybernie.
De Waltero de Bertuna .j. marca pro jurata.
De Henrico Hache .ix.s. iiij.d. pro eodem.
De Willelmo trime .x.s. iiij.d. pro eodem.
De Joscelino de Hereswell .xiiij.s. iiij.d. pro eodem.
De Willelmo de Munchenesy .C.s. de fine.
De Nicholao filio Hugonis et fratribus suis dimidia marca pro habenda Iurata.
De Roberto de Tybotot .xl.d pro plegio.
De Roberto de Cokfelt dimidia marca pro falso clamore.
De Willelmo persona de Trenchetune .v.s. pro habendis Militibus.
De Henrico de Meleford .xl.d. pro falso clamore.
De Euerard fratre et herede Walteri pichard .xx.s. pro habenda saisina[1]
De Nicholao le Merueillus .x.s. pro[2] licencia concordandi.
De thoma de Muletuna .ij. marce. de equis thome malecake.

Libertas Abbatis sancti Edmundi

De Hominibus de Luddingelond' .xj.li. de firma.
De Roberto Plonch dimidia marca de fine.
De Willelmo de Cotstokes dimidia marca.[3] pro Iudaismo.
De Cecilia le arblaster' dimidia marca pro eodem.
De Ada de Whelnetham .ij.s. .vj.d pro eodem.
De Willelmo Bigod .ij.s. de arreragiis Hugonis Ruffi.

Libertas sancti Edmundi.

De Roberto de Briwes .CCC.xxxiij.li. dimidia. marca. de exitibus. terrarum Comitum Arundellie et Clare.
De Civibus Norwici .iiij.li de tallagio.
De Hominibus de Gippeswyz .C.s. de Cremento firme
De Roberto de Aldewartuna .j. marca pro habenda Inquisitione.
De Willelmo de Pinkeny .xx.s. de fine pro Iudaismo.

[1] *saisina*, originally written *se-* and altered.
[2] *pro*, note curious *p*, probably altered from some other letter.
[3] *marca* interlineated.

De Hominibus de Gernemue .xxxiiij.li de firma.
De Hominibus de Dunewiz .x.li de firma.
De Philippo de Eya .xl.s. de firma de Combes. pro Bartholomeo de Crek.
De Eodem .lx.s. de fine plurium Judeorum pro Eodem Bartholomeo.
De Bartholomeo de Crek .xxx.s. de Annuo scutagio de Combes.
De Eodem dimidia. marca. de firma de Combes.

[Column 2.]

℣ Bedefordia Bukingham.
De Stephano de Sagraue vicecomite

De Burgensibus Bedefordie .viij.li. viij.s. j.d. de firma. libra Arsit.
De Hominibus de Brehulle .iiij.li. viij.s. de firma. libra Arsit.
De Eisdem .x.s. de fine.
De Eisdem .xxvj.s de cremento.
De Eisdem .viij.s. iiij.d. de redditu cuiusdam prati.
De Eisdem .iiij.s de asarto.
De Geruasio de Huchenden' dimidia. marca. de fine.
De Johanne filio galfridi .xxx.li de firma. de Ailesbir'.
De Godefrido de limhout .j. marca. de fine pro Iudaismo.
De Willelmo Maldoyt .x.li. de fine pro pluribus debitis.
De Johanne filio Galfridi .viij.li. j. marca. de fine.
De Willelmo de Bellocampo .x.li. de fine pro pluribus debitis.
De Prebendariis Lincolnie in Bedefordia .lx.s. de tallagio.

[Column 3.]

℣ Londonie et Middlesexia.
De vicecomitibus.

De Petro filio Alulfi .xx.s pro Iudaismo
De Roberto de Basincurt. dimidia. marca. de debitis Alani le burser.
De Eodem .xx.d. pro vino vendito contra assisam.
De Johanne Camerario .v.s. pro terra que fuit Johannis Bukoynte.
De Petro filio Alani .xx.s de promisso.
De Radulfo de Wilintonia .xv.s de debito Iohannis Bukointe pro Iudaismo.
De Galfrido de sancto Edmundo. dimidia. marca. de tallagio

De thoma de Dunolmia .ij. marce. de tallagio Londoniarum.
De Ricardo le Bacheler .xx.s. de tallagio Londoniarum.
De Ricardo de Crancford .xxvij.s. .vj.d. de scutagio pictauie.
De Ricardo de Stanmere .v.s de fine.
De Willelmo Iltode dimidia. marca. de tallagio Londoniarum.
De Hugone le tanur .x.s. de eodem.
De Eustachio mercerio .xx.s. de eodem.
De Johanne Hanin .x.s pro vino vendito.
De Ricardo de Crankford. dimidia. marca. pro licencia concordandi.
De Osberto de Northbroc .ij.s. vj.d. pro petro filio Alulfi. pro Iudaismo.
De Waltero de Kyrkeham custode Archiepiscopatus .xxv.li. iiij.d. obolus. de exitibus manerii. de Herewes.
De Eodem .Cxvij.s. xj.d. obolus. de exitibus manerii de Hese
De Eodem .xlv.s. de scutagio de Elueyn In Herewes.
De Michaele de sancta Elena .xxiiij.li. de firma Londoniarum. Libra Arsit.
De Isaac de Norwiz .ij. marce. de debitis Mathei blundi.
De. Waltero. Carliolensi Episcopo .xviij.li. xvj.s.vij.d. obolus. de exitibus maneriorum de Herewes et de Hese.
De Petro filio Alulfi .viij.s.iiij.d. de fine pro Iudaismo.
De laurencio le Tinekere .xl.d. de debitis Petri filii Alulfi pro Iudaismo.
De Stephano filio Andrei[1] .xl.d. de fine pro debitis patris sui.
De. Waltero. Carliolensi episcopo .x.li. xviij.s.[2] iiij.d. de exitibus maneriorum de Herewes et de Hese.
De Eodem .xxiiij.li de exitibus eorundem maneriorum.
De Rogero le Duk .C.s. de fine pro Ricardo de Buterewik'.
De Eodem .xx.s. pro Ingolfo le gorgterer[3] de tallagio Londoniarum.
De Johanne de Wuburne .ij. marce. de fine. pro tallagio.
De Magistro Alexandro de Dorsette .xxxix.li. x.s.x.d. obolus. de arreragiis Cambii Londoniarum.
De stephano de stranda .j. marca. pro Johanne richeman pro plegio.
De Sehero filio Henrici dimidia. marca. pro Elia filio Benedicti de fine.
De Michaele de sancta Elena .xxxij.d. de Warda sua de tallagio.
De Eodem et Waltero Buffle[4] .xiiij.d. de remanenti firme. Londoniarum.

[1] *Andrei*, apparently a mistake for *Andree*.
[2] A *d* half rubbed out.
[3] *gorgterer*, the second *g* apparently altered from some other letter.
[4] *Buffle*, *B* apparently altered from *H*.

De Roberto filio Johannis et Waltero de Wintonia .xv.s.vij.d. obolus de remanenti firme Londoniarum.

De Heredibus Roberti de Wintonia. j. marca. de debito patris sui. 40

PLATE XVI

P. R. O. Pipe Roll (Exchequer L. T. R.), No. 100, ro. 4, m. 1.

A. D. 1256.

This is a good specimen of the formal Exchequer-hands—more formal than that of the last plate, which is also Exchequer—and should be compared with others of the same series (Plates IV A, V B, VIII, and XI). The letters are joined together to a considerable extent, but the writing is much less advanced than the preceding and cannot be called current. Capitals are sparingly used (*cestretona* and *bernewella* l. 4). Tall letters tend to a bow, but many have the notch as well. Note the very heavy down- and cross-strokes.

Individual letters. Both types of *a* appear, the headless having its second stroke very much pronounced, while in the case of the headed one the upper loop is sometimes large enough to cross the lower: *A* is current. The ornamental *B* is less advanced in type than in the preceding plate. *c* is well distinguished from *t*, the second stroke of which comes well across the upright (*sicut* and *continetur* l. 7): (note the two distinct crosses in *valettis* l. 10). *e* is of two types: contrast in l. 3 that of *le* with that of *Noreis*, the second stroke of which forms a tie with the following *i*. *f* and long *s* come well below the line, and the top of them is sometimes a curious double bow (*sicut* l. 16). *h* enlarged is sometimes used instead of the more ornamental form of capital (*Homines de Huntendonia* l. 20). Initial *i* is long only as a quasi-capital and final *i* only in numbers: note the curious *iIdem* (l. 22): *i* is occasionally accented to avoid confusion with *n* (*in Cumbertona* l. 5). *m*, *n*, *u*, and *i* are still distinguishable: the final stroke of *m* and *n* is often produced below the line. *Q* ends with a long horizontal line, made sometimes by producing the first stroke (l. 23), sometimes by a curl added to the second (l. 21), sometimes by an additional stroke (l. 25): note the curious *i* inside the *Q* (l. 23). *r* is of both types: the round one occurs after other letters besides *o* (*Cantebrug'* l. 1). Long and round *s* are used indifferently as initials and finals, but long *s* only as a medial. *v* initial is used generally though not invariably (*usque* l. 14).

Abbreviations. The usual sign is a heavy straight line. The *-er* sign is mostly confined to its strict meaning, but is used with *r* for *reddit* and occasionally elsewhere: note *xxxv.s.* and *ij.s.* in l. 27. The *per* and *pro* signs are common, as also the *con-* and the 3 for *-us* or *-ue*: the curl for *-us* also occurs (*domus* l. 26): the *-rum* suspension is used, as in the last plate, after *a*. The curious superior *i* in *Quieti* has been noticed:

superior *r* is of a particularly clear kind. For *et* there is the ordinary Tironian sign, which is crossed.

The *f'* in the margin probably stands for *fecit* and implies that the sheriff has levied the debt and is therefore answerable for it.

The *st* **ligature** again appears.

Stopping is fitful: only the point is used, and that occurs, in many cases, before and after numbers or after the single *s* and *d* meaning shillings and pence.

The vertical and horizontal **ruling** may be noticed.

Cantebrugesira et Huntendonesira /

Iohannes de Marines de primo. dimidio anno Willelmus de la stowe de ultimo. dimidio anno reddunt compotum de ccclxxiij li. ix s et iiij.d blancis de firma comitatus. In thesauro nichil /

Et In Gumecestria l li bl. de quibus homines ville respondent infra. Et eadem de Kemesec x.li bl in fordham Et Roberto le Noreis cum herede Alardi flandrensis. x li bl in eadem villa. Et In / villa de cantebrugia. xl.li. bl. de quibus homines ville respondent infra. Et in cestretona. xx li. bl. de quibus canonici de bernewella respondent infra. Et In villa de Huntendonia. xxxv li bl de quibus / homines ville respondent infra ℙ Et in terris datis in Cantebrugesira monialibus de litlemora .lx.s. in Berkwey. Et heredibus Walteri. de Merck. x li in Cumbertonia. Et fratribus militie templi. xv/li in Wyburgham. in terra quam petrus de Alneto tenuit Et xxxviij li in saham unde compotus debet reddi per se Et heredibus comitis Huntendonie .xl.li in bramptonia et Alcmun / deburia Et c s in Wyburgham Et Ricardo carettario .xxx s et v d sicut continetur in Rotulo xxxiij. Et Henrico de badewe. lx s et x d sicut continetur in Rotulo xxxvij. Et Reginaldo talun .xxx s / et v d sicut continetur in Rotulo xxxij. Et debent iiij^{xx}. xvij li iiij s. ix.d bl. De quibus. Iohannes. vicecomes respondet infra. de. xlviij li. xij.s iiij. d. ob. bl et Willelmus vicecomes respondet infra. de xlviij li. xij s iiij.d obolo bl /

Mise. Iohannis vicecomitis

Idem Iohannes vicecomes reddit compotum de xlviij li xij s iiij.d obolo bl. de remanenti firme comitatus sicut continetur supra In thesauro nichil. Et in Garderoba. Regis Artaldo de sancto romano. xx li per breue Regis Et Willelmo de Renham et Willelmo / belet valettis Regis de dono eiusdem .c.s per breue Regis scilicet vtrique eorum. l s Et Roberto le butiler pro arreragiis stipendio-

rum suorum dum fuit in seruicio Regis in Wasconia. ix li et xij.d per breue Regis Et In liberacione / vnius probatoris per iiij^{xx}. et xvj. dies .viij.s Et debet xv li. xvij s. x d bl qui sunt extensi ad xvj li. xiij s et viij.d ob numero. Idem reddit compotum de eodem debito [1]. In thesauro .xxviij li vj s vjd ob Et habet de superplusagio .xi li / xij s. x.d qui allocantur ei infra in firma pro proficuo /

Mise Willelmi vicecomitis

Idem vicecomes reddit compotum de xlviij li. xij s iiij. d ob bl de remanenti firme comitatus sicut continetur supra. In thesauro .xxiiij li. iij s et iiij d. bl Et in elemosina constituta militibus de templo .ij marcas. Et pro c et l^{ta}. stikis anguillarum / emptis ad opus. Regis et cariagio earundem ad. Regem vsque Wodestok' xxxviij s et ix d per breue Regis. Et pro luciis et anguillis emptis ad opus eiusdem et cariagio eorundem. ad. Regem usque Westmonasterium .xv li. xv s. x d per breue / Regis Et debet vj li et vj.d bl qui sunt ei extensi ad. vj li iv s et vj.d numero /

f' Idem Iohannes vicecomes reddit compotum de xxv marcis pro proficuo comitatus. de primo. dimidio anno sicut continetur in Rotulo precedenti. Et de dimidia. marca de remanenti cuiusdam summe totalis. sicut continetur ibidem. In thesauro nichil. et in superplusagio quod habet supra .xj.li. xij s. x.d. Et debet .c et vij.s. ij.d /

f' Idem Willelmus. vicecomes reddit compotum de xxv marcis pro eodem de ultimo dimidio anno. sicut continetur in originali. Et de v marcis de cremento eiusdem. de eodem tempore sicut continetur ibidem. In thesauro .xij li Et debet viij li /

Iohannes le Moyne de proficuo comitatus. de primo dimidio anno preterito et toto anno xxxviij. /

Hugo de Hodeng xxxiiij.li. ix s et ix.d. de pluribus debitis contentis in Rotulo xxxiij. /

f' Homines de Huntendonia reddunt compotum de xxxv li. bl. de firma ville sue. In thesauro .xxxj li vj s iiij d ob bl Et In. elemosina constituta canonicis Huntendonie .xl s sicut continetur in Rotulo xxix. Et monia/libus Huntendonie .xiiij s. x d sicut continetur ibidem Et debent xxj.s vj d ob bl qui sunt extensi. ad xxij s ij d numero. iIdem reddunt compotum de eodem debito. In thesauro liberauerunt Et Quieti sunt /

[1] *Idem* to *debito* interlineated.

f' iIdem homines reddunt compotum de .x li. de cremento ville sue Et de .xx li. de nouo cremento sicut continetur in Rotulo xxxvij. In thesauro liberauerunt Et Quieti sunt /

f' Telarii Huntendonie reddunt compotum. de xl s pro Gilda sua In thesauro liberauerunt Et Quieti sunt /

f' Homines Cantebrugie reddunt compotum. de xl li bl. de firma ville sue. In thesauro .xxxviij li xvj s et viij.d bl. Et debent .xxiij s iiij d bl qui sunt extensi ad xxiiij s numero iIdem reddunt compotum de eodem debito. In thesauro liberauerunt Et Quieti sunt /

f' iIdem homines reddunt compotum de xx li. de cremento ville sue. Et de xx li. de eodem. de anno preterito Et de xxvij s. vj d ob de remanenti firme ville sue. de anno preterito. In thesauro liberauerunt Et Quieti sunt /

f' iIdem homines reddunt compotum de ij s. de terra simonis de Insula in Cantebrugia Et de xl.d de terra angeri ibidem Et de j marca. de firma domus que fuit beniamin Iudei. Et de xviij s viij.d de eisdem de anno pre/terito. In thesauro xxxv s et iiij.d. Et debent ij s /

f' Idem Willelmus vicecomes reddit compotum de vj.s. de terra Radulphi sokeman in bramptonia In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est /

f' Idem vicecomes reddit compotum de xx s. de terra Hamelini in Badburcham Et de xvj.d. de xv acris terre ibidem. Et de iiij s. de Comite oxonie de v^{que} acris terre quam[1] Simon clericus tenet. In thesauro liberauit Et Quietus est /

PLATE XVII, A

P. R. O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 90, m. 6.

A.D. 1272.

This specimen of Chancery hand continues the tradition of the last specimen but two, showing, however, a slightly increased tendency to wedge-shaped down-strokes, while the floreation of the tall letters is less pronounced, except in the single entry near the bottom, which is in a different hand.

Individual letters. Both types of *a* are found; the stem of the headless type still projects below the line. *B* is of the roughly triangular shape which persists through the 14th century. *c* and *t*, though

[1] *Sic* MS.

possessing distinct forms, are not certainly distinguishable (*concesserit* l. 27). *i* is less frequently accented than before. Initial *ſ* and *s* have the tail brought up behind the letter to form a flourish. *m* and *n* are better distinguished than usual from *i* and *u*. *r* is a simple fork without a definite shoulder; the rounded form is only used after *o*. Initial and final *s* are usually of the short form, which is easily confused with *g* (*Darensis* l. 41): *S* is usually of the 'beaver-tailed' form. The tail of *y* is sharply curved.

The **abbreviations** are as usual. Tironian *et* is crossed.

Ligatures. *st* is common, and *ct* though rare is still found (*extractas* l. 21).

The **punctuation** is generally by full stops and semicolons. The **paragraph mark** resembles a capital *C*.

℗ Rex omnibus salutem. Sciatis[1] quod ad instanciam dilecti valletti nostri Augustini Oger perdonauimus Roberto de Ros de Keftesby et Willelmo fratri eius sectam pacis / nostre que ad nos pertinet versus eosdem Robertum et Willelmum occasione depredacionum [et] roberiarum sibi impositarum vsque ad festum Natiuitatis sancti Johannis Baptiste; anno regni / nostri quinquagesimo sexto et firmam pacem etcetera Ita tamen quod stent etcetera. In cuius etcetera /

℗ Rex omnibus etcetera salutem. Sciatis quod ad instanciam Karissime consortis nostre Regine Anglie, et Margarete Regine Scocie filie nostre Karissime perdonauimus Alano de Wintonia / sectam pacis nostre que ad nos pertinet pro morte Iohannis filii Iohannis le Prouost vnde rectatus est et firmam etcetera Ita tamen etcetera In cuius etcetera /

℗ Abbas de Thame habet litteras Regis de proteccione cum clausula exceptis tribus placitis et exceptis loquelis que coram Justiciis etcetera duraturas vsque ad festum omnium / Sanctorum proximo futurum. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium .xij. die Augusti /

℗ Rex dilecto et fideli suo Matheo de Columbariis et Ele que fuit vxor Radulfi de Gorges salutem. Quia quibusdam certis de causis volumus quod filius et heres Thome / Maudut defuncti qui de nobis tenuit in capite liberetur dilecto et fideli nostro Willelmo de Wintreshull' custodiendus donec aliud inde duxerimus ordinandum. vobis man/damus firmiter iniungentes quod predictum heredem prefato Willelmo sine dilacione liberetis custodiendum in forma predicta. Et nos vos inde penes quoscumque con/seruabimus indempnes. Mandauimus enim prefato Willelmo quod heredem

[1] Note the characteristic form of *S*.

predictum a vobis recipiat et saluo custodiat in forma predicta In cuius etcetera /

℣ Et mandatum est Willelmo de Wintreshull' quod predictum heredem a prefatis Matheo et Ela recipiat et ipsum saluo custodiat donec a Rege aliud receperit / in mandatis et quod hoc nullo modo omittat. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xvj. die Augusti. /

℣ Rex concessit abbati[1] [de] Thame qui de licencia Regis profecturus est ad partes transmarinas quod Michael de Thame et Rogerus de Bertonia quos idem abbas loco suo con/stituit admittantur attornati ipsius abbatis ad lucrandum vel perdendum in omnibus placitis et querelis pro ipso vel contra ipsum motis vel mouendis in quibuscumque / curiis, et quod predicti Michael [et] Rogerus facere possint attornatum etcetera ad lucrandum etcetera in omnibus placitis etcetera et attornatum amouere et alios attornatos loco ipsorum / etcetera in curiis etcetera durature[2] usque ad festum omnium Sanctorum proximo futurum. Teste vt supra. /

℣ Rex omnibus etcetera salutem. Sciatis quod in partem acquietacionis arreragii expense hospicii Karissime consortis nostre Alianore Regine Anglie concessimus eidem Regine / ducentas libras de finibus amerciamentis catallis dampnatorum et fugitiuorum anno die et vasto ac aliis exitibus Itineris Iusticiariorum nostrorum proximo Itineraturorum in Comitatu / Bukinghamie promittentes bona fide quod predictas ducentas libras de finibus amerciamentis ac aliis exitibus predictis leuari et prefate Regine nostre habere faciemus in forma / predicta. Mandauimus enim vicecomiti nostro Bukinghamscire quod de primis exitibus predictis predictas ducentas libras sine dilacione cum extractas[3] inde receperit leuari et prefate Regine / nostre habere faciat sicut predictum est In cuius etcetera. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium .xv. die Augusti /

℣ Rex forestariis viridariis et omnibus aliis ministris forreste sue de Wanberge salutem. Sciatis quod de consilio nostro[4] commisimus Ricardo Dyue valletto Karissime / Consortis nostre Alianore Regine Anglie et ad instanciam eiusdem Regine Balliuam forreste nostre de Wanberge cum pertinenciis custodiendam quamdiu nobis placuerit / Et ideo vobis mandamus quod eidem Ricardo tanquam custodi forreste predicte in omnibus que ad balliuam illam pertinent intendentes sitis et respondentes sicut / predictum est. In cuius etcetera Teste vt supra. /

[1] *abbati* interlineated. Note that it is impossible to distinguish *bb* from *lb*.

[2] *dur'* has been extended as *durature* to agree with *litere* understood.

[3] *ct* are here conjoined letters. Compare, however, *rectatus* and *sectam* above, l. 5.

[4] *vestro* is equally possible.

℣ Rex omnibus Balliuis etcetera salutem. Cum Henricus de Nouo Burgo quondam patronus et aduocatus Abbacie de Bynedona per cartam suam quam inspeximus concesserit et licenciam dederit Abbati et Mona/chis eiusdem Abbacie alium quemcumque voluerint eligendi sibi et domui sue in aduocatum et patronum; ac iidem Abbas et Monachi iuxta illam concessionem et licenciam nos sibi et domui sue in aduo/catum elegerint et patronum; Nos eleccionem illam acceptantes et volentes quod Abbacia predicta decetero sit de aduocacione nostra et heredum nostrorum, suscepimus in proteccionem et defensionem nostram / ipsam Abbaciam et Abbatem et Monachos eiusdem Abbacie et homines terras res redditus et omnes possessiones suas. Et ideo vobis mandamus quod predictam Abbaciam et Abbatem et Monachos eiusdem Abbacie homines / etcetera manuteneatis etcetera Non inferentes etcetera Et si quid etcetera In cuius etcetera Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xviij. die Augusti. per consilium.[1]/

℣ Galfridus de Neubald' clericus habet litteras Regis de proteccione simplici sine clausula per vnum annum duraturas Teste ut supra. /

℣ Rex omnibus etcetera salutem. Sciatis quod dilecti et fideles nostri Nicholaus de la Pole, Alexander le Riche et Rogerus de Dunstapel quibus per nostram litteram specialem dedimus potestatem / inquirendi per totum regnum nostrum de bonis mercatorum Flandrie vbicumque inuenta fuerint et arrestandi eadem bona atque vendendi iuxta estimacionem[2] virorum / legalium in recompensacionem dampnorum que Mercatores nostri pro nobis sustinuerunt in Flandria, vendiderunt duas naues Flandrie Londoniis arrestatas Thome / de Londres [?] et Waltero de Waus de ciuitate eadem pro sex marcis de licencia nostra. In cuius rei etcetera Teste magistro Willelmo de la Cornere apud Stretford' xviij. die Augusti. /

℣ Rex archiepiscopis etcetera [3]et omnibus aliis de terra Hibernie.[3] salutem. Cum tenentes locum Karissimi filii Edwardi primogeniti nostri in Anglia deputauerint dilectum et fidelem nostrum Mauricium filium Mauricii Iusticiarium Hibernie / quamdiu eidem filio nostro et dictis tenentibus locum suum placuerit; vobis mandamus quod eidem Mauricio tanquam Iusticiario nostro Hibernie in omnibus que ad custodiam illam / et custodiam terre predicte

[1] Note that *c* and *t* are absolutely indistinguishable in this new hand.

[2] Compare *Keftesby* above. In this case the *s* and *t* are combined; there is no other distinction between *st* and *ft* since the cross of the *t* nullifies the usual distinction between *f* and *s*.

[3–3] Interlineation.

pertinent consulentes sitis et auxiliantes intendentes et respondentes sicut predictum est. In cuius etcetera /

℣ Procurator domus beati Edmundi de Pontiniaco in Anglia habet litteras Regis de proteccione simplici sine clausula per vnum annum duraturas

[*The last two lines of this Plate* (*an incomplete entry*) *are not here transcribed.*]

PLATE XVII, B

P. R. O. Foot and Chirographs of Fine (Museum of P. R. O., Case H, No. 96).

A. D. 1272.

This specimen has been reconstructed from the three counterparts of the tripartite indenture of agreement between the parties, i. e. the parts retained by each and the 'foot' or portion retained by the Court of Common Pleas as of record. The handwriting, though from another court than the last, does not differ materially from it in character except in the increased tendency to wedge-shaped down-strokes.

Individual letters. *c* is well distinguished from *t*. *f* and *s* have slightly flourished heads. *i* has usually a light accent. The fork of *r* springs from the foot of the down-stroke, but there is a slight shoulder; the round form is only used after *o*. Final *s* is never long. Initial *v* is usual but there are exceptions (*uel* C. l. 4). The two words *Cyrographum* separating the parts of the indenture are good examples of ornamental capitals.

The only **ligature** is *st*. The **punctuation** is by full-stops and semicolons. Note the mark of filing on the 'foot' (between ll. 5 and 6).

Special notes. Foot, l. 4, *querentem*, the plaintiff; l. 5, *deforciantes*, the defendants.

PLATE XVIII, A

P. R. O. Court Rolls, Portfolio 178, No. 94.

A. D. 1275.

This is part of a roll of the 'Pie Powder Court' of St. Ives's fair, held by the bailiffs of the Abbot of Ramsey. It is somewhat rapidly and not always carefully written, and shows the tendency already observed to run on the abbreviations from the end of the words; it also shows the wedge-shaped down-strokes due to the floreated heads of the tall letters.

Individual letters. Headless *a* is sometimes very careless and easily confused with *o*. *c* and *t* are not always distinguishable. *e* is sometimes written so carelessly as to be confused with *o*. *f* and *s* come below the line and have slightly flourished heads. *i* is almost always accented. *r* is a simple fork without any shoulder; the round form is not always

used after *o*. Final *s* is occasionally long (*Norreys* l. 4). *y* is increasingly used for *i*.

Abbreviations are numerous, suspensions being freely used for legal terms. The *-rum* termination is found after *a* (*marcarum* l. 33).

The **punctuation** is by semicolons and full stops.

Curia ferie die Martis proxima ante festum sancti Dunstani anno. W. abbatis. viij°/

preceptum est ℙ Ricardus filius Iohannis de Ringested' atornatus Willelmi de Aldewikes Capellani venit et peciit uersus Rogerum Corse et Wade et alios / de communitate Huntendonie atachiatos superius .xj.s. de summa .xiiij^{cim}. solidorum et .vj. denariorum quos Burgenses Huntendonie soluere manu-
vadium ceperunt sicut in rotulis / penultime ferie testatur dicto Willelmo Capellano pro Iohanne Norreys de Huntendonia Clerico. Et dicti Rogerus et Wade et alii de Huntendonia / atachiati venerunt et recognouerunt .vj.s. Et quia demanda Willelmi de Aldewikes fuit .xj.s. preceptum est quod capiatur vadium de .xj.s. et reti/neatur usque ad finem ferie. /

preceptum est ℙ Iohannes de Bestona de Notingham' optulit se uersus Gilbertum de Castretona de stanford'. Idem. Gilbertus. atachiatus est per .j. equum et / non iustificat se. Ideo preceptum est quod melius distringatur si possit inueniri. sin autem; distringatur communitas pro eodem ad respondendum Et Thomas sauua/ge atachiatus est per .j. pannum de arate. Et Iohannes de Rippes per .j. pannum de say. Et alius Iohannes de Rippes per .j. pannum de arate. Et Iohannes de Wermigton / per .j. pannum de Lumbardia. /

preceptum est ℙ Reginaldus le Bolewere[1] de Swanese optulit. se. uersus Gilbertum de Estgate de Nicole. Idem. N.[2] vocatus non venit. Ideo Adam / de Nichole qui fuit plegius eius veniendi in Misericordia non est inuentus. Et preceptum est quod dictus Gilbertus ponatur per meliores plegios. per El' /

respectuatum ℙ Datus est dies usque in Crastinum Willelmo de Sancto Edmundo querenti et Roberto poppe piscatori deforcianti quod venient sine essonia /

preceptum est ℙ Distringas communitatem leycestrie pro Iohanne piscatore leycestrie pare et participe eorum ad respondendum
vadium Willelmo de Boltona.[3] districti sunt. / per .ij. saccos lane. /

[1] *Bolewere*, the *o* is very like an *a*, but compare *Roberto* below.

[2] The scribe has written *N*, the initial of *Nicole*, by mistake for the *G* of *Gilbertus*.

[3] See note [1].

miseri-cordia

℣ Iohannes de Rippes. Iohannes de Wermigtonia et alius Iohannes de Rippes de Stanford' fecerunt legem Ricardo de Touleslund' / atornato Iohannis de Rysseburk' clerici regine quod Michael de Cantuaria et Henricus de Coreby non sunt pares eorum nec participes nec / ad scot. nec ad lot cum eisdem nec de eorum communitate. Idcirco dicti Burgenses de Stanford' quieti recesserunt. Et Ricardus de Touleslund' / atornatus predicti Iohannis de Risseburk' in Misericordia pro falso clamore. condonatur. /

preceptum est

℣ Communitas Huntendonie distringatur pro Roberto le smale ad respondendum Ricardo de Touleslund'. Postea testatur quod dictus Robertus manet in / Gomecestria. Ideo communitas eadem distringatur. /

preceptum est

℣ Elyas hundr[edarius] atornatus Roberti le Torcheneys. optulit. se. uersus Communitatem de Iakele. de qua communitate quidam Ricardus de Iakele et Alexander / de eadem atachiati sunt per .xij. duodenas de peciis ferri. et non iustificant se. ideo preceptum est quod ipsi et alii melius distringa[n]tur. Iterum districti / sunt per .xij. vomera./

preceptum est

℣ Willelmus de Stowe. optulit. se. uersus Ricardum de la Gare de sancto Edmundo. Et Idem Ricardus atachiatus est per .j. robam de bludo per vnum Co/fre plenum de bursis. et non iustificat se. ideo teneatur illa districcio et capiatur plus de eo et de aliis de communitate. /

preceptum est

℣ Retine .ij. pannos quos habes de Willelmo le lache de Norhamptonia. et Cape plus de eo et de aliis de eadem communitate / ad respondendum Iohanni aurifabro de sancto albano. /

+

℣ Iohannes de Rysseburk' Clericus domine Regine per Ricardum de Touleslund' atornatum suum queritur de Roberto russel et de Roberto tord / de Stanford'. eo quod vbi ipse Iohannes venit in feria Stanford' vltimo preterita die Iouis proxima post mediam. xl^{a}m. anno eodem et / emit de predictis Roberto rossel et Roberto tord vnum equum pro .xxiiij^{s}. nec ipsos denarios promptos habuit ad soluendum; vnde[1] conuenit inter ipsum et / predictos Robertum et Robertum quod traderet eis argentum dimidium et dimitteret eis nomine vadii duos equos quorum vnus fuit de precio .xx. solidorum / et alius de precio .ij. marcarum donec veniret et portaret eisdem predictos .xxiiij^{s}; predicti Robertus russel et Robertus tord et alii duo socii eorum / scilicet Henricus de Coreby et Michael

[1] *unde* interlineated.

de Cantuaria qui modo sunt absentes contra pacem domini et balliuorum dictos duos equos vendiderunt et / elonga- 35
uerunt et pecuniam pro eisdem receptam detinuerunt et deforciauerunt. et garcionem eiusdem Iohannis spoliauerunt de .j. herigal/do bludi precii. viij^{to}. solidorum et de. vij. solidis argenti in denariis. ad dampnum et vituperium suum .C. solidorum et ducit sectam. /

Dicti Robertus russel et alius Robertus presentes defendunt vim et iniuriam et dampnum predicti Iohannis .C. solidorum. et dedixerunt aperte et precise quod nunquam / aliquem equum eidem Iohanni vendiderunt in feria stanford' nec aliquod contractum cum eodem fecerunt die quo ipse Iohannes ipsos incopauit[1] / nec equos eiusdem Iohannis vendiderunt. et de hoc prompti sunt facere quod Curia considerat. Et sunt ad legem. plegii vtriusque de lege; Henricus An/phelys et Radulfus Cappe. Et postea 40
dicti Robertus russel et alius Robertus pecierunt ut statim in Curia leges suas facere possent. Et Robertus russel / venit et incepit facere legem. scilicet. ipse et duo ab secta. tantum. et deficiebat de .iij. hominibus. Et Robertus tord. optulit. se. similiter ad legem / faciendam; et deficiebat de lege sua omnino ratione quod neminem[2] habuit qui secum voluit facere legem. Idcirco per consideracionem Curie / dicti Robertus et Robertus satisfacient predicto Iohanni de dampnis suis. Et pro transgressione sunt ambo in Misericordia. Finis Roberti russel. / plegium Corpus suum. Finis Roberti tord plegium Corpus suum. /

ad hoc etiam quod dictus. Iohannes. de Ryssebur' dicit 45
garcionem suum esse spoliatum de .j. herigaldo precii. viij^{to}. solidorum et de .vij. solidis in denariis. /

Miseri-cordia ij.s. ℙ Iohannes de Wyltonia dat domino de pecunia quam petit uersus communitatem de Braban .xl. solidos pro auxilio habendo plegii de prosecutione; { Euerardus de Bruera / Robertus de Notingham / postea dictus. Iohannes. venit et retraxit se. Ideo pro falso clamore in Misericordia .ij. solidorum per El' /

Respectus ℙ Thomas de Toralbo[3] et alii tres socii sui seldam pariter tenentes de Canobo quorum nomina superius sunt contenta

[1] *incopauit*: apparently meaning *incu[l]pauit.*

[2] *neminem*: the last stroke of the first *m* has been added after the whole word was written.

[3] *Toralbo* or possibly *Torallo.*

et Simon / le Blake de sancto Edmundo seruiens dictorum mercatorum in cuius manibus quedam falsa vlna contra assisam fuit inuenta pe/tunt respectum vsque in crastinum ad concordandum si possint cum domino Abbate. sin autem; venient in crastinum sine essonia.

PLATE XVIII, B

P. R. O. Assize Roll, No. 373, m. 7 *d.*

A.D. 1292.

This example (a Roll of Justices in Eyre), though written in the country, is probably the work of a clerk in one of the central courts. The down-strokes are now decidedly wedge-shaped, and the same tendency will be seen in the abbreviation marks. The writing is almost completely current, and is written with a somewhat slanted pen.

Individual letters. *c* and *t* are not clearly distinguished. *f* and *s* have flourishes produced occasionally by continuing the tail behind and over the letter (*firmam* l. 13). The bow of *h* starts from the foot of the stem and is not produced below the line. *i* is usually accented. *m* and *n* are completely indistinguishable from *i* and *u*. The fork of *r* begins from the tail of the stem and there is no shoulder; the round form is only used after *o*. The short *s* is sometimes used medially (*quoscumque* l. 14), and always finally. *v* is always used for *u* initial. *y* is much used and very sharply curved. *z* is short and not crossed.

Abbreviations. Suspensions are common, and the *-er* sign is frequently used as well as the dash for the common sign of suspension and contraction. The *-rum* termination is used after *a*.

Ligatures. *st* and rarely *ct* (*Octauarum* l. 25), are the only ligatures, but bowed letters are sometimes written close (*reddendo* l. 13).

Punctuation. There are very few stops and those full stops. A **paragraph mark** of the *ss* type is used.

[*The first seven lines of this Plate* (*an incomplete entry*) *are not here transcribed.*]

℗ Iohannes Huberd petit uersus Ricardum de Wolueren- 8
hamptonia vnum Mesnagium vnum molendinum vnam Carucatam / terre cum pertinenciis in Sunersshe vt Ius etc. et in que idem Ricardus non habet ingressum nisi post disseisinam[1] / quam Robertus le Blund inde iniuste etc 10
fecit[2] Huberto le Chaumpeneys. patri predicti Iohannis cuius / heres ipse est post pacem etcetera. /

Et Ricardus venit et dicit quod predictus Iohannes habuisse potuit in hoc casu breue infra gradus sic dicendo in que / idem Ricardus non habet ingressum nisi per

[1] *dimissionem* struck out. [2] *inde* struck out.

Radulphum de Hengham cui Robertus le Blund illa dimisit qui iniuste etcetera. disseisiuit/Hubertum le Chaumpeneys. etcetera vnde petit iudicium si ad hoc breue quod est extra
miseri-cordia. gradus. debeat ei inde / respondere Et Iohannes non potest hoc dedicere Ideo predictus Ricardus inde sine die. Et predictus Iohannes in misericordia pro falso clamore /

¶ Warisius de Valoynes[1] summonitus fuit ad respondendum Abbati de Langedona de placito quod acquietet ipsum de seruicio / quod Nicholaus de Criel ab eo exigit de libero tenemento suo quod de prefato Warisio tenet in Heghardres et Stelling' / vnde idem Warisius. qui medius est inter eos. eum acquietare debet etc. Et vnde queritur quod cum ipse teneat/de predicto Warisio vnum Mesnagium quinquaginta acras terre et vndecim acras bosci cum pertinenciis in predictis villis ad feodi / firmam reddendo inde singulis annis[2] quatuor marcas et predictus Warisius predictum Abbatem per predictum / seruicium uersus quoscumque acquietare teneatur; predictus Nicholaus predictum Abbatem pro homagio et seruicio quarte partis./feodi vnius militis et Releuio et secta ad Curiam ipsius Nicholai de Swynesfeld' de tribus septimanis ad tres septimanas facienda/ratione predictorum tenementorum pro defectu acquietancie. predicti Warisie[3] grauiter distringit et molestatur. Et vnde dicit quod deterio/ratus est et dampnum habet ad valenciam quadraginta Marcarum Et inde producit sectam etcetera. /

Et Warisius venit Et petit sibi ostendi si quid predictus Abbas habeat de acquietancia predicta facienda. Et predictus Abbas / profert quoddam scriptum sub nomine cuiusdam[4] Iohannis de valoynes. aui predicti Warisii [5]cuius heres ipse est[5] in hec verba. Hec est conuencio facta / inter Iohannem de Valuniis filium Guerrici ex vna parte et Petrum Abbatem et Conuentum de Langedonia ex alia videlicet quod predictus / Iohannes concessit et tradidit dictis Abbati et Conuentui de Langedonia totam terram suam et boscum suum cum omnibus / pertinenciis suis in villa de Halirode ad feodi firmam iure perpetuo de eo et heredibus suis vel de quo assignare voluerit / tenenda Ita quod prenominati Abbas et Conuentus de Langedonia soluent singulis annis dicto Iohanni et heredibus suis vel cui/cumque

[1] *Valoynes*: the scribe appears to have written *g* and altered it to *o*.
[2] *predicto Warisio* struck out.
[3] *Warisie*: *sic* MS.
[4] *predicti* struck out and *cuiusdam* interlineated.
[5-5] interlineated.

assignare voluerit de dicto tenemento de Halirode[1] cum pertinenciis quatuor marcas argenti ad duos terminos anni in / eodem tenemento scilicet in Crastino Octauarum Pasche duas marcas et in Crastino Octauarum sancti Michaelis duas marcas pro / omnibus seruiciis consuetudinibus auxiliis sectis et demandis Ita quod prenominatus Iohannes de Valuniis et heredes sui vel sui assignati / facient seruicium domini Regis et defendent predictam terram cum pertinenciis uersus Capitales dominos in omnibus warantizabunt eam / cum pertinenciis dictis Abbati et Conuentui de Langedonia per predicta[2] annuam firmam quatuor marcarum contra omnes homines / et feminas inperpetuum /

Et Warisius precise petit Iudicium de breui de eo quod variatur de scripto predicto eo quod in breui continetur quod predicta tenementa sunt / in Heghardres. et Stelling' et in predicto scripto per quod nititur ipsum Warisium obligare ad acquietandum.[3] etc continetur / quod tenementa predicta sunt in villa de Halirode si ad hoc breue debeat ei inde respondere etcetera. /

Et Abbas dicit quod Halirode est quoddam hamelettum qualitercumque nominetur villa in predicto scripto et continetur / infra villas in predicto breui contentas Et hoc paratus est verificare Et Warisius quesitus si predictam verificacionem admittere velit illam / non admittit set precise petit Iudicium de variacione predicta. ideo ad iudicium. Et quia predictum scriptum testatur quod predicta tenementa sunt / in villa de Halerod Et predictus Warisius ad predictum Abbatem acquietandum. etcetera. per predictum scriptum contra formam eiusdem / nullatenus teneatur et ea racione verificacionem predictam admittere necesse non habet eo quod hoc esset contra formam scripti / predicti. Consideratum est quod Warysius predictus inde sine die. Et Abbas in misericordia pro falso clamore.

ad Iudicium.

misericordia

PLATE XIX, A

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, C. 376.

A.D. 1289.

This is a London scrivener's hand, less ornamental than Plate XX A, and with less contrast between the heavy and the light strokes. The whole hand is slightly oblique. The tall letters are still floreated

[1] *Halirode*, originally written *Halnode*.

[2] *predicta*: *sic* MS.

[3] *acquietandum*: substituted for *warantizandum* struck out.

but the ornamentation is less emphasized, and the vertical element in the hand is beginning to be more conspicuous than the horizontal.

Individual letters. The headed *a* is not always double-bowed, but the headless or cursive *a* is not used. *c* is generally distinguishable from *t*. The bow of *h* does not come below the line. *i* is almost always accented. *m* and *n* are distinguished from *i* and *u*. *r* is forked about half-way down the stem and has a very slight shoulder; the round form is often used after bowed letters (*presentes* l. 1). Medial *s* is sometimes round (*eisdem* l. 8). *S* is a reduced form of the 'beaver-tailed' type (*Sciant* l. 1, *Simone* l. 20). Initial *v* is regularly employed. *y* is made in one stroke of the pen with a looped stem (*Cheyner* l. 2). *z* is not crossed.

Abbreviations. Suspensions are comparatively few. Notice the abbreviation for *Christianos* (l. 16), derived from the Greek χρ.

Ligatures. *st* is the only ligature, but the bows of bowed letters are written close (*opposito* l. 5, *pace* l. 11). The **punctuation** is by full stops only. The **hyphen** is a single oblique dash (*acquietacione* ll. 17, 18). Notice the ornamental flourishes to fill up the last line. There are traces of **ruling.**

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Walterus de Cliue filius et heres Rogeri de Cliue. dedi concessi. et hac presenti carta mea / confirmaui. Rogero le Cheyner Mercerio Londoniarum. quoddam tenementum cum suis pertinenciis quod Iohannes de sancto Edwardo Capellanus / habuit aliquando de concessione Roberti le wyrdrawere in parochia sancti Antonini Londoniarum inter terram et tenementum Willelmi de Bettuna versus / orientem et terram et tenementum Ade de Blakeneye versus occidentem. vna cum quodam Celario existente subtus magnum solarium lapideum / predicti Ade ex opposito tenementi quod fuit aliquando Iohannis Norman in eadem parochia. Et continet in longitudine desuper a fronte Solarii exten/dentis se vltra vicum Regium in parte australi vsque ad terram dicti Ade in parte aquilonis. viginti quinque vlnas. et tres pollices de vlnis ferreis domini / Edwardi Regis Anglie absque pollicibus mensuratis. Et continet similiter in longitudine deorsum a vico Regio vt predictum est vsque ad terram / predicti Ade. decem. et Nouem vlnas et sex pollices de eisdem vlnis. Et continet in latitudine vna cum Muro lapideo existente versus orientem / vsque ad Celarium eiusdem Ade versus occidentem prout inter eos includitur. decem vlnas. et dimidiam vlnam. et quatuor pollices de predictis vlnis / absque pollicibus mensuratis. Habendum et tenendum predicto Rogero le Cheyner. heredibus et assignatis suis. libere quiete. integre. here/ditarie. bene et in pace in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim Executori-

bus predicti Iohannis de sancto Edward ad sustentacionem vnius capellani secundum / quod continetur in suo testamento. viginti. solidos sterlingorum ad quatuor anni terminos principales et vsuales videlicet ad quemlibet terminum quinque solidos / Et ad socagium domini Regis die mercurii proxima ante Pascha floridum. Tres denarios. Et heredibus domini Rogeri de Norwode. dimidiam Marcam ad quatuor / anni terminos predictos videlicet ad quemlibet terminum viginti denarios. Et michi. heredibus. uel assignatis meis duos denarios ad festum Natiuitatis sancti Iohannis / baptiste pro omnibus seruiciis exaccionibus. et secularibus demandis et rebus cunctis Et ego predictus Walterus heredes. et assignati mei totum predictum / tenementum cum suis pertinenciis vt predictum est. prefato Rogero le Cheyner. heredibus et assignatis suis. contra omnes homines et feminas Christianos / et Iudeos per predictum seruicium warantizabimus acquietabimus. et defendemus in perpetuum. Pro hac autem donacione concessione. warantizacione. defensione. acquie / tacione. et presentis carte mee confirmacione. dedit mihi predictus Rogerus. octo. marcas argenti pre manibus in Gersumam Et vt omnia premissa robur perpetue / firmitatis optineant. presentem cartam sigilli mei impressione roboraui. Hiis testibus. domino Iohanne le Breton tunc Custode Ciuitatis Londoniarum. Iohanne / de Cantuaria et Willelmo de Bettunia tunc vicecomitibus Londoniarum. Henrico le Waleis tunc aldermanno illius Warde. Roberto darras. Hugone Moton. Simone Godard. Thoma Romein / Iohanne le blond. Iohanne Heyron. Iohanne clerico et aliis.

[*On seal*] Sigillum Walteri de Cleve.

PLATE XIX, B

P. R. O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 121, m. 5.

A. D. 1301.

The writing of this specimen marks a change in style which is almost sudden. The ornamental floreated hand of the 13th century is giving place to the plainer and rougher hand of the 14th, characterized by wedge-shaped down-strokes and triangular spaces. The latter of these notes is less apparent in this example than the former, but a comparison of its *h* s, *b* s, and *l* s with those of former examples shows the floreated heads yielding to a simple hook, and a little sharpening of the angle of this hook will shortly produce the triangular head.

Individual letters. *a* is regularly double-bowed. *c* is usually, but not always, distinguishable from *t*. *F* is made by writing two small *f*s. The bow of *h* begins from the foot of the stem and is brought below the line. *i* is less frequently accented and the accent is now a curved line. *m* and *n* are not distinguished from *i* and *u*. The round form of *N* is gaining ground. The fork of *r* begins from the bottom of the stem and there is no shoulder; the round form is only used after *o*. The short *s* is used in the middle of words. There is no 'beaver-tailed' *S*. *v* is always used for *u* initial. *z* is of the long type (*Jorz* l. 14).

Abbreviations. Except in proper names contractions are more frequent than suspensions. The *-er* sign is not used strictly, and the *-is* abbreviation with *k* and *g* is most likely a mere mark of suspension.

Ligatures. *ft* and *st* are written alike. *ct* is little more than a lengthened top to the *t* (*Octobris* l. 10).

Punctuation is by vertical dashes, equivalent to commas, and full stops. The **paragraph mark** is like a capital *C*. The roll shows a **ruled** margin.

PLATE XX, A

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, B. 366.

A. D. 1288.

This, like Plate XVIII A, is in a country scrivener's hand, but less rapid and more formal: the opportunities for ornamentation afforded by the capitals and the marks of abbreviation are fully used. There is also a slight increase in angularity, and the down-strokes are much heavier than the up-strokes.

Individual letters. *a* is always of the double-bowed type. *c* is generally, but not always, distinguishable from *t* (*peciam* l. 8). The loop of *d* is narrow and curved. The bow of *h* is brought below the line. *i* is usually accented. *r* is forked about one-third down the stem and has a distinct shoulder. The round form is used after any bowed letter, even *d* (*quadraginta* l. 7). Medial *s* is never round: the beaver-tailed *S* is not used. The stem of *t* is usually curved and projects slightly above the cross. Initial *v* is not used. There is hardly any distinction between large and small *w*. *z* is short and has a slight cross.

Abbreviations. There are few suspensions and the signs of contraction are strictly used. Tironian *et* is crossed.

Ligatures. *st* and *bb* (*abbuttat* l. 5) occur.

Punctuation is by full stops only. A single oblique dash is employed as a **hyphen** (*testibus* ll. 11, 12). The parchment shows clear traces of **ruling**.

Notum sit omnibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit quod ego Iohannes filius Walteri clerici de Westbredwardin pro me /

et heredibus meis concessi et ad firmam tradidi Abbati et conuentui de Dora pro tribus Marcis quas mihi dederunt pre manibus totam / illam peciam terre super benefeld quam habui ex dono Ade filii Iohannis Muschet de bredwardin. que quidem terra iacet / in latitudine inter terram eorum quam habent ex dono meo et iter quod uocatur le somerwey. et extendit se a predicta terra / quam habent ex dono meo et abbuttat ad boscum predicti Ade Muschet. Habendam et tenendam de me et heredibus meis ipsis / Abbati et conuentui et eorum successoribus libere quiete et integre bene et in pace cum omnibus pertinenciis et libertatibus et liberis / consuetudinibus suis usque ad terminum quadraginta annorum plene et continue complendorum. termino primo incipiente. In / Annunciatione dominica Anno gracie. M°. cc°. lxxx°. octauo. Et ego predictus Iohannes et heredes mei predictam peciam terre cum / pertinentiis et libertatibus suis predictis Abbati et conuentui et eorum successoribus durante termino antedicto contra omnes mortales / Warentizabimus defendemus et adquietabimus. In huius rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis tes/tibus. domino Henrico de solers. Iohanne deuerois. Hugone de Tibritunia. Philippo de ypre. Waltero de Coblituna. Et / aliis multis. Datum apud Doram die et anno supradictis.

PLATE XX, B

P. R. O. Memoranda Roll (Exchequer, L. T. R.), No. 69, m. 49.

A.D. 1303.

This hand, though almost contemporary with Plate XIX B, represents a different tradition: it exhibits the same tendencies varying in detail. The difference of effect produced in the same hand by the change from Latin to French should be noticed.

Individual letters. A special form of *B* occurs in the French with the top bow open (*Berewyk'* l. 32). *c* is well distinguished from *t* by its smaller head. *F* is formed of two small *f*s: *f* and *s* come below the line and have plain heads. The bow of *h* comes below the line. *i* is usually accented, but the accent is almost a circle. *m* and *n* are fairly distinguishable from *u* and *i*, the uncial initial *m* being used as a semi-capital. *r* is usually very deeply forked and has a slight shoulder: the round form, which is only used after *o*, has a hooked tail below the line. The short *s* is not used medially, and *S* is of the 'beaver-tailed' type. *z* has a tail below the line.

Abbreviations, especially in the French, are few and of the usual types. The *-rum* sign is used after *a* (*terrarum* l. 11), and the *-is* sign is used as a mere termination with *f* and *k*. There are no **ligatures.**

The **punctuation** is by commas, semicolons, and full stops. The **paragraph mark** is of the *ss* type.

Adhuc communia de termino sancte Trinitatis; anno. regni. Regis. Edwardi. xxxj°./

Adhuc Breuia directa Baronibus./

Baronibus pro Estudo de Stuteuilla.

℗ Cum in forma pacis, inter Regem, et Regem Francie, super discordiis, et guerris dudum motis inter eundem / Regem, et Regem Anglie, inite et firmate contineatur, quod omnes terre, et tenementa hominum, et subdi/torum dicti Regis Francie, per Regem aut suos racione dicte guerre in manum Regis capta, occupata, seu detenta / siue fuerint religiosorum, aut aliorum quorumcumque, plenarie, et integre reddantur, et restituantur illis quorum / fuerant ante capacionem eorundem in manum Regis, prout in dicta forma plenius continetur; Rex mandat Baronibus / quod omnes terras, et tenementa Estoudi de Stuteuilla Militis de potestate dicti Regis Francie, in Anglia, que / racione supradicta in manu Regis existunt, prefato Estudo, vel eius certo attornato sine dilacione plene / et integre reddi, et restitui faciant. Teste Rege, apud Aberden .xxiiij^to^. die Augusti, anno .xxxj°. / Pretextu cuius breuis; mandatum est Ricardo de Kirkeby Custodi terrarum et tenementorum predictorum, per breue de scaccario sub / testimonio. P. de Wylugby. tenentis locum Thesaurarii .ix. die Septembris, hoc anno, quod terras et tenementa predicta / prefato Estoudo, reddat, et restituat in forma prescripta./

Baronibus; pro Rege. de denariis mittendis ad Regem.

℗ Ja soit ceo qe nous vous eussioms nad gueres maundez, par nos lettres qe vous feissez venir tote / la foison des deniers qe vous porriez, por les gages des gentz, qe demoerent ouesqes nous es parties / descoce; sachez qe vous les enuoiez si escharsement, et si lentement, qe totez les foiz, qil nous vienent / nous deuoms au treble qe la somme namonte, qe vous nous enuoiez, si qe nul a qi hom deit paiement / faire, ne se puet tenir apaiez de sa partie, dount aucuns se sont ia alez en lour pais, et / senuont autres de iour en autre, par defaute de lor paiementz, si qe nous dotoms mout / qe nos qe sont al eide de dieu bien auant menees, ne se porront parfaire a honeur, ne a profit / de nous, ne de notre conseil, si hastif counsail ny soit mys, mes il nous semble bien qentre vous / qui auer nos biens a gouerner pensez molt peu de la defaute, qe nos gentz ont

qui demoerent / ouesques nous, es parties ou nous sumes. Pur quei nous vous mandoms derichief, et chargeoms / en la foi qe vous nous deuez, qe vous nous enuoiez hastiuement tieu somme des deniers, qe nous / puissoms faire paier les arrerages qe nous deuoms a notre pietalle, et as autres gentz de notre / Oust, et lour eider plus auant de lour gages, sicome reson serra, et a totes les foiz qe desores vous / enuerrez deniers; si les nous enuoiez a tieu foison, et a tiel esploit ; qe nous puissoms plere as gentz / de notre Oust', en tieu maniere ; quil soient entalentez a demorer ouesqes nous, et de nous seruir / et si despendroms nous le meins, et serra nostre guerre le pluis tost finie. Et par tant qe les Ireis / sont iavenuz, a demorer en notre guerre Descoce ; si couient il, qe vous nous enuoiez les / sommes pluis grandes, car il ne nous vueillent seruir en tieu manere despaez, ne a si grant suffrete / come nos autres gentz Dengleterre ont fait. Et sachiez qe notre estor, qui feust a Berewyk' / seur Twede, est ia despendu, solom ceo qe Richard de Bremmesgraue gardein de nostre estor / iloeqes ; certefia nostre Seneschal, et notre cher Clerk Iohan de Benstede, par ses lettres, et sicome / nostre chier clerk Iohan de Drokenesford' Gardein de nostre Garderobe, vous porra pleinement / auiser. Et pur ceo qe nous auoms entenduz, qe les purueances nous sont pas venues, sicome / il feust ordene ; si voloms qe vous ensoiez certefiez, par quei, nous auoms mandez au dit / Richard, qil vous face hastiuement asauoir, par ses lettres quantqe il ad resceu, de la pur/ueance auantdite, et de quels pais, ele est venue. E si les choses ne soient pas venues solonc / ce qe enfeust ordene ; vous mandoms qe vous enquorgez hastiuement en qui la defaute / demoert, et celui, ou ceux, qe vous entrouerez copables facez punir par les corps et lour / chateux, come ceux, qui nous ont deceuz, et touz nos autres Ministres, ensoient chastiez parmy / eux a toutz iours mes. Et facez hastier les dites poruoiaunces, vers nous de iour en / autre, si qe nous enpuissoms estre serui es parties, ou nous sumes, en tieu manere qe nous / ne soioms deceuz, et qe nos busoignes, ne se perdent par laschesce, ne par defaute dentre vous. / Car nous vous fesoms asauoir certeinement, qe si vous neez ceste nostre mandement, et les / autres qe nous vous feroms desore enauant ; pluis a cuer qe vous ne auez eu, cea en arieres ; / nous vous feroms aquiter du vostre, toutz les gages, de

nostre pietaille de vn Mois entierement / et outre ce, nous prendroms a vous en tieu manere qe vous vous tendrez agreuez por touz les / iours de vos vies, et qe autres prendront ensample, dauoir nos busoignes a cuer totes les / foiz, quil enserront chargez. [*Incomplete sentence omitted in transcript.*]

PLATE XXI, A

P. R. O. De Banco Roll (Common Pleas), No. 170, m. 134.

A. D. 1307.

This is a very rapid hand, obviously written in court, and therefore much less distinct than the last example. Floreated heads are not quite given up, but they are carelessly made and are giving place to very large loops. The pen is held upright.

Individual letters. *c* is usually distinguishable from *t*. *f* and *s* have the tails brought up behind to form a flourish. The bow of *h* starts from the foot of the stem and is brought down below the line. *m*, *n*, and *u* are indistinguishable. *r* is forked from the foot of the stem and has no shoulder: the round form, only used after *o*, has a long tail below the line. The short *s* is not used medially. *y* is rather less curved than before and has a long tail.

Abbreviations, especially suspensions, are frequent; the *-er* sign is sometimes, and the *-is* sign often, used as a mere suspension. The mark in the margin resembling the ancient sign for *est* may probably indicate the due issue of the writs ordered by the court.

The **punctuation** is by full stops and capitals only. A *ss* **paragraph mark** is used. For the **clerk's symbol** in the margin cf. Plate XXIII B and note (p. 180).

Eboracsira ℙ Thomas de Etton per attornatum suum optulit. se .iiij. die versus Gilbertum personam ecclesie de Gillingg' in Rydale / de placito de communa pasture sue in Gillinges in Rydale admensuranda; quam idem Thomas clamat admen/surari versus eum. Et ipse non venit. Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti quod venire faceret eum hic ad hunc diem / ς auditurum recordum et iudicium suum de Loquela predicta Ita quod loquela illa esset hic in eodem statu in quo fuit in / Curia domini. Edwardi. patris Regis. a die Pasche in xv. dies anno regni predicti[1] Regis Edwardi. patris. Regis Tricesimo quinto. Et que postea / remanebat sine die et cetera. Et vicecomes modo mandat quod predictus Gilbertus non[2] habet laicum feodum et cetera. Et testatum / est hic quod idem Gilbertus habet terras et tenementa apud

[1] *predicti* interlineated. [2] *non* altered, possibly from *nec*.

Rydale in eodem comitatu et cetera. Ideo sicut prius preceptum est vicecomiti / quod venire faciat eum hic a die sancti Michaelis in xv. dies. auditurum recordum et cetera. Et vnde et cetera /

Norffolcia

℔ Robertus de Holuestonia per attornatum suum optulit. se .iiij. die versus Ricardum de la Rokele de placito quod reddat ei quinqua/ginta libras et sexdecim solidos quos ei debet et iniuste detinet et cetera. Et ipse non venit Et est districtus per / catalla ad valenciam dimidie marce Et nichilominus Radulphus Oldman de Ouytonia. Clementem de Wadtonia / Adam Canon de Bergh' Adam Iulyen de eadem Ideo ipsi in misericordia. Et sicut prius preceptum est vicecomiti quod / distringat eum per omnes terras et cetera. Et quod de exitibus et cetera. Et quod habeat corpus eius hic a die sancti Michaelis in xv. dies et cetera./ Et vicecomes sit et cetera. /

exitus dimidia marca[1]

misericordia[1]

Norffolcia

℔ Essoniator Rogeri Sturgon' de Lenne Episcopi. optulit. se iiij. die. versus Willelmum. Eyward de placito quod / reddat ei quandam cartam quam ei iniuste detinet et cetera. Et ipse non venit. Et summonitus [est] Iudicium attachietur quod sit / hic a die sancti Michaelis in xv. dies. et cetera. /

Norffolcia

℔ Radulphus filius Walteri Skyring' de Lammesse per attornatum suum optulit. se .iiij. die versus Galfridum Maddy de placito / vnius acre terre cum pertinentiis in Lammesse quam clamat ut Ius et cetera. Et ipse non venit. Et summonitus [est] Iudicium attachietur [2]/ predicta acra terre capiatur in manum domini. Regis. et cetera. Et diem et cetera. Et ipse summoneatur quod sit hic a die sancti Michaelis / in xv. dies et cetera./

Norffolcia

℔ Iohannes Baret de Worthestede per attornatum suum optulit. se .iiij^to. die versus Mauricium Mathun Iohannem Hermer et / Willelmum de Hauboys de placito quare [3] vi et armis [3] in ipsum Iohannem Baret apud Wrthestede ceperunt et inprisonauerunt et male [4]/ tractauerunt et alia enormia ei intulerunt ad dampnum ipsius Iohannis Baret quadraginta librarum et contra pacem domini [5] Edwardi /

[1] Cancelled. [2] Erased. [3–3] interlineated.
[4] *male*: the *a* is obscured by a fold in the parchment.
[5] *domini*: all but *d* invisible for the same reason.

Regis. patris Regis. Et ipsi non veniunt. Et predictus Mauricius manucaptus est per Willelmum Hermer et Willelmum fratrem. Et predictus [1] / Iohannes Hermer per Thomam Wolwy et Willelmum Hermer Et predictus Willelmus de Hauboys per Iohannem et Willelmum H. [2] /

Miseri-cordia [3]

Ideo ipsi in misericordia. Et preceptum est vicecomiti quod distringat eos per omnes terras et cetera. Et quod de exitibus et cetera. Et quod habeat corpora / eorum hic a die sancti Michaelis in xv. dies. et cetera. /

Norffolcia

℣ Iurata inter Edmundum Le Leche querentem et Ricardum Athelwald et Alanum Le Messer de Swafham de placito transgressionis ponitur / in respectum vsque a die sancti Michaelis in xv. dies pro defectu Iuratorum quia nullus venit Ideo vicecomes habeat corpora Iuratorum et cetera.

℣

Cxxxiiij
Lodne

PLATE XXI, B

P.R.O. Court Rolls, 153/69, m. 2.
A.D. 1328.

This, though a country hand, has lost almost all trace of the style of the 13th century. The heads of *h* and *l* are still occasionally floreated, but the tall letters are for the most part simply looped. The writing as a whole is somewhat careless and consequently difficult to read with certainty: it is written with a somewhat slanted pen.

Individual letters. *a* is always double-bowed. *B* is simply *b* with a triangular flourish in front. *c* is usually distinguishable from *t*. The bow of *e* is very large. *f* and *s* come below the line and have simple looped heads. The bow of *h* begins from the foot of the stem and comes below the line. *i* has ceased to be accented. *m* and *n* are not distinguished from *u* and *i*. *r* is forked down to the foot and has a slight shoulder; the round form is not used. The short *s* is not used medially. Initial *u* is occasionally found (*ut* l. 21). *y* is used freely. The 3-shaped letter is used for the sound of *gh* or *y* (*Yenge* l. 21, *Farnboroughe* l. 27): it represents the survival in English writing of the Anglo-Saxon flat-topped *g*.

The **abbreviations** are much as usual, but suspensions are numerous and difficult. The signs for *-er* and *-is* are very loosely used.

[1] *predictus*: *us* invisible.
[2] *H.* probable reading: obscured as above.
[3] Cancelled.

Punctuation is by full stops only. The small **paragraph mark** resembles a double *c*, the larger a double *s*. A margin has been **ruled.**

℗ Briht-waltonia. ℗ *Curia et Lageday tenta ibidem die Martis proxima ante festum beate Katerine virginis. Anno. Regis. Edwardi. tercii. a conquestu Anglie secundo. /*

Conen-holte[1] ℗ Non veniunt ad hunc diem quia fecerunt finem. /
Adam atte Churche[2] debet. de Cheuagio .j d. ob. et soluit. /

℗ Herte-leghe. ℗ Decennarius cum decenna venit. et nichil dant de certo ad hunc. diem. Set presentant quod Willelmus Bartelmew qui tenuit de domino vnum / Mesnagium et iiij acras [et] dimidium terre clausit diem extremum post vltimam Curiam et dicunt. quod per mortem. dicti. Willelmi dominus nullum habebit heryettum / eo quod dicta tenementa sunt de hereditate Alicie vxoris sue. et per mortem dicte Alicie habebit dominus heriettum. Et dicta Alicia fecit / feoditatem. et
Attornatus prestitit sacramentum. debitum. Et. ponit loco suo ad faciendam sectam Willelmum filium suum et dat domino
.finis .xij.d. pro eodem attornato reci/piendo .xij.d. plegius. Walterus Pyther. Et idem Willelmus est receptus in decenna de Herteleghe et prestitit sacramentum et sic remanet.[3] /

miseri-cordia .iij.d. ℗ Item presentant quod Iohannes atte Hethe. (infirmus) facit defaltam. Et quod Adam atte Churche. (.iij.d.) Tapperius. Simon le Coke. (.contradicitur.) tapperius et fregerunt assisam. ideo etcetera /

finis pro secta .iij.d per annum. ℗ Hugo Reymond fecit finem cum domino pro secta Curie. dat per annum .vj.d videlicet ad quemlibet lageday .iij.d
Summa xv.d. / plegii decennarius et decenna. /
Briht-waltonia. ℗ Decennarius cum decenna venit et. presentant quod dant de certo ad hunc diem .ij.s. Et presentat quod Warinus
Certum .ij s. (.vj.d.) Edwardi. Warinus (post venit) atte Ayhsshe. / Stephanus (.post venit.) Sterkyn.
.Miseri-cordie .vj.d. faciunt defaltam ideo in misericordia. /

Miseri-cordie v.d. ℗ Item presentat quod Warinus le (iij.d) Scet. Ricardus (ij.d) Faber. Braciauerunt etc. ideo. et.cetera. /

℗ Iohannes filius Warini le Wynd qui tenet de domino in villenagio. vnum Mesnagium et vnam Cossetlam terre quod[4]

[1] This may equally well be read *Couenholte.*
[2] The abbreviated *h*, usually for *her*, is here for *hur.*
[3] ȝ usually for *et.* Here *mȝ* for *manet* just as *pȝ* for *patet.*
[4] *quod* interlineated.

finis ij Marce. dimidium.

quondam fuit dicti Warini venit. in. / plena Curia et sursum Reddidit dictum tenementum in manus domini ad opus Alicie sorori[s] sue que tenet vnum mesnagium et vnam virgatam terre que / fuit quondam Auicie le Wynd Et dicta Alicia venit in plena Curia et sursum Reddidit in manus domini dicta Mesnagium et virgatam terre cum / pertinenciis ad opus dicti Iohannis. Et Warinus le Wynd pater eorundem dat domino pro dicto excambio faciendo xxxiij.s. iiij.d. soluendo / ad festum Natiuitatis domini .xx.s. et ad festum Pasche .j. marcam. plegii. Adam atte Grene. et Willelmus Bysouthewode. /

officium. prepositi

℣ Adam Osmund electus. est. ad officium prepositi et prestitit sacramentum. debitum. /

Finis .iiij.s.

℣ Walterus le ȝenge[1] dat domino de fine ut possit Maritare Matildem filiam suam extra homagium domini .iiij.s. plegius. Warinus Agodesalf. /

Attachiamenta Messoris.

℣ Willelmus le Scet ij.d in misericordia pro .xxij. bidentibus in defensa domini . . Bercarius Abbatis vj.d Abindonie pro C bidentibus ibidem plegius Willelmus atte sonde. / Willelmus Brekeuile pro ij. bobus .ij.d. ibidem plegius Iohannes atte Stetende.[2] Quidem [*sic*] de Lokynge ij d. pro xl. bidentibus in la Hethe. plegius Warinus atte Ayhsshe. / Willelmus Borgeis .ij d. pro ouibus in defensa. . Henricus le Nywe iij d pro xl bidentibus in defensa. warda facta. plegius. Iohannes atte sonde. / Iohannes faber ij d. de Woluele. pro xl ouibus ibidem ij d. plegius Iohannes atte Stretende. Willelmus atte Mere pro ij. bobus in defensa. plegius G. Aueray.[3] / Agnes .ij d ate Boure. pro iiij. bobus ibidem. plegius Galfridus Aueray. Robertus ij d atte Kepe pro ouibus ibidem. Iohannes Balle. iij d. pro lx. ouibus ibidem / plegius Willelmus le Scet. Warinus .ij d. In La Hurne. de Farnberȝe. pro j equo in

Misericordie. iiij.s. vj.d.

[1] ȝ, a letter used principally for the consonantal functions of *y*; sometimes equivalent to *g*.

[2] An *r* has been dropped, as appears from the repetition of the name in the second line below.

[3] Appears to have been written with a final *g* subsequently erased.

defensa plegius Elyas Parleurenhs. Elias Parleurens. .ij d pro spinis / assportatis de la Hethe. Iohannes atte Boure .ij d. pro xiij. hoggastris in defensa. plegius Warinus Chipman. Ricardus Bagge ij.d. fuit plegius pro j. equo in / defensa. Ricardus faber .ij d. pro ouibus in defensa. Radulfus Smokyere ij d pro j. equo in defensa. Robertus atte Kepe. .ij d. pro xxx. bidentibus ibidem. / Adam atte Grene iij d. Custos bosci domini pro dampno facto in bosco inuento per messarium vnde non fecit attachiamentum plegius idem / Walterus le ʒenge iij d. pro transgressione facta in bosco domini per filium suum. plegius Idem. De Iohanne Frye .vj.d. messario pro virgis. domini[1] datis Iohanni Wynd. /

Cheuagium .ij.d. ℙ Walterus de Hywyhs. dat domino de Cheuagio .iiij.d ad duos lagedayes soluendos ad commorandum in libertate domini. plegius Robertus atte / Kepe. /

Summa .xiij.s. j.d.[2] cum fine communi. et fine mercheti. /

Summa Finis. xxxiij.s. iiij.d. /

ℙ *Curia tenta ibidem die Iouis proxima ante festum Sancti Hillarii Anno Regni. Regis. tercii post Conquestum secundo* /

ij d. Tastator Ceruisie. ℙ Tastator seruisie presentat quod Willelmus Scket brasiauit et fregit assisam seruisie ide[o] in misericordia .

[*The last two lines of this Plate* (*an incomplete entry*) *are not here transcribed.*]

PLATE XXII, A

P. R. O. Issue Roll (Exchequer of Receipt), No. 176, m. 9.

A. D. 1315.

This document is written in a more careful hand than Plate XXI A, being the principal record of its department and prepared at leisure. The writing is less advanced than the last specimen and somewhat resembles that of Plate XIX B in general appearance.

Individual letters. *a* is always of the double-bowed type, the upper bow being produced and used as a tie. *B* has lost all trace of resemblance to the capital form. *c* is usually distinguishable from *t*. The loop of *e* is large and almost touches the base of the letter, giving it an appearance of being on its back. The tops of *f* and *s* are plain and the tail is frequently looped up behind. *F* is formed of two small *f*s. The accent of *i* is semicircular but is seldom used. *m* and *n* are scarcely

[1] *domini* interlineated. [2] Altered from *xiij.s. vj.d.*

distinguished from *u* and *i*. *r* is often deeply forked and has a very slight shoulder; the round form is used after any bowed letter. The short *s* is sometimes medial (*Askeby* col. 1, l. 7). The stem of *t* does not usually come above the cross.

Abbreviations. Suspensions are on the whole fewer than contractions: some of them are puzzling to a beginner, e.g. m^{9} = *manus*, $p\overline{3}$ = *patet*. *3* is used freely for final *-et*, as well as for *-us*.

Ligatures. *ct* and *st* are found.

The **punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons. The **paragraph mark** resembles a double *c*.

Ruling, both vertical and horizontal, is very plain.

A **correction** is made in col. 1, l. 9, by the 'expunging' of an *n*, i.e. placing a small dot under it to indicate that it is to be omitted.

Special notes.

Col. 1. l. 1, *fc̄e* = *facte*. *Custodi garderobe*, the Keeper of the King's Wardrobe.

l. 2. *suum*: the *s* is very like a *d*. *breue de Liberate*, a warrant to the Treasurer to pay.

l. 5. *frō* = *frumento*.

l. 6. *The*^{a} = *Thesauraria*.

l. 7. *m*^{a}*r* = *marcas*. *xx*^{e} *et xv*^{e}, a 20th and 15th, i.e. a tax on movables.

l. 8. *per unam talliam*, by one tally, a notched wooden stick being a receipt for the balance (*remanenti*) of their account. A writ was issued to the collectors to pay the sum to their neighbour Sir Robert Clifford for his wages, and on the return of the writ with Sir Robert's receipt a 'tally' was issued in their favour, which thus appears on this roll as an issue and on the Receipt Roll as a receipt. An extension of the principle is seen in Plate XXXIX.

l. 10. *per* is written before *patet* by mistake for *prout*.

l. 13. *W. Reginaldi*, Walter Reynolds, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury.

l. 14. *lampredas* = lampreys.

l. 15. *v'o* = *vero*.

l. 16. *me*^{d} = *memorandum*. *nc̄* = *nunc*.

l. 19. *lupis aquaticis* = pike.

Col. 2, l. 3. *super breue* partially obliterated.

l. 5. *expn̄* = *expensis*.

l. 8. *scutellis* = 'écuelles', porringers.

l. 9. *salsariis* = saucers. • • : an early abbreviation for a proper name being an initial between two dots, it became usual later to omit the initial, leaving the dots to supply the place of the proper name.

l. 11. *solōis* = *solutionis*; *dedn'*, a mistake for *den'* = *denariis*.

l. 12. *indors*^{r} = *indorsantur*.

l. 14. *restauro equorum*, the replacement of horses lost in the king's service.

l. 22. *putura* = keep.

l. 23. *perpacationem* = payment in full.

l. 26. *compota forinseca*, accounts not forming part of the Sheriff's accounts.

l. 32. *Remor'* = *Rememoratorum*, 'Remembrancers'. *pro summonicionibus scribendis*, for writing the Summonses of the Exchequer, calling on the Sheriffs to pay their debts to the Crown.

PLATE XXII, B

Vatican Archives. *Archivio del Castello di Sant' Angelo*, Armadio C, fasc. 79.

[*Circa* A.D. 1330.]

This letter is given as an excellent example of a careful secretary-hand. It is, as will be seen from the transcript, in the handwriting ot Richard de Bury, while the words PATER SANCTE are the autograph of Edward III. The document is thus of exceptional interest. Comparison with the examples of similar date shows that the writing is unusually upright and regular. The tall letters are simply hooked and not floreated.

Individual letters. *a* is double looped, but in the king's hand the upper loop is still open. *c* is not always distinguished from *t* (*secre* l. 9). *d* has a long oblique head and a very narrow waist. *e* has a large loop and a prominent tongue, serving as a tie. *ff* is used for *F*, and *f* has usually a loop at the bottom. The bow of *h* comes below the line. *i* has sometimes a semicircular accent and is always short. *m*, *n*, and *u* are indistinguishable except by the number of strokes. The tail of *p* is looped. *r* is deeply forked and has a very slight shoulder, except in the king's hand; the round form is used after *o*. Initial *s* is either long or short, the long form not being looped; medial *s* is always long, final always short. *u* is not used as an initial, nor *v* as a medial. *z* is of the long type.

Abbreviations are not numerous or unusual.

Ligatures. *ct* is noticeable (*sauncte* l. 5, *sancte* l. 11). *de* is very closely written. *st* can only be called a ligature because it is clearly differentiated from *sc*.

The **punctuation** is by short vertical strokes used as commas, but the two last words are between semicolons.

Corrections are made by means of **caret** marks.

Tresseint piere pur ce que il nous couendra pluseures foiz envoier lettres a vostre seintete ne mie seulement pur noz busoignes propres mais pur lauancement / des gentz de nostre houstiel et pur autres, et sur ce sumes infourmes par monseignur Guilliam de Mountagu quil plerroit a vous[1] auoir de nous aucoun / priue entresigne par quel vous puissez sentir quelles prieres nous sunt chargeantes et tendrement a cuer, et les quelles ne mie; Suppli/ons, a vostre seintete affecteusement, que les prieres quelles nous vous

[1] *a vous* interlineated.

ferrons en temps auenir par noz lettres en latin ou en Franceis, / seales soutz priue seal, ou soutz nostre signet, es quelles seyent escrites cestes paroles de nostre mein[1] — Pater Sauncte — vous pleise / auoir especialment recomandees et entendre certeinement que elles nous sunt a cuer, car nostre entencion ne est mie de vous presser / desore par cel enseigne, mais au meins, que nous purrons, et si come nous deuons, Sachauntz tresseint piere que ceste chose ne est / descouerte a nul forque au dit monseignur Guilliam et a Maistre Richard de Bury nostre secretaire des queux nous sumes certeins / quil le tendrent pur secre en touz cas, Ceste cedule estoit escrite de la mein le dit maistre Richard car pur diuerses occupacions / que nous auiens au partir de cestes nous ne poyens entendre ataunt de Escripture.

⁘ Pater | Sancte ⁘

PLATE XXII, C

P. R. O. Warrants for the Great Seal (Chancery), Series I, File 1330, No. 12.

A. D. 1335.

This, being an informal warrant written by the King's Secretary and equivalent to a Signet Letter, is in an ordinary letter-hand. There is no effort to differentiate similar letters, nor any attempt at ornament. The tall letters have plain **angular** hooks.

Individual letters. *a* is still double-bowed. *B* is almost triangular. *c* is distinct from *t*. Note the sharp angle in the lower bow of *d*. *e* is now made in one stroke, a diagonal slightly curved stroke being written on from the tail and substituted for the loop (e. g. *fourme* l. 4). *f* and *s* have the tails brought back and up. *i* is no longer accented. *r* is simply forked and has no shoulder; the round form is not used. Short *s* has a large looped tail and is not used medially. *z* has a tail and is little more than a zigzag line.

Abbreviations are few, the document being in French, and mainly by superior letters. There are no **ligatures.**

Punctuation is by full stops and commas.

Saluz et bon amur. Come nous eoms donez a nostre cher clerc Bartholomeu Tyrel leglise de Veltz Radenore en la dicose / de Herford qest ia voide et a nostre doneson apurtenant par reson de noun eage fuitz et heir monseignur Esmon de Mortimer / et de ses terres et tenementz esteantz en nostre main, vous mandoms que sur ce vous facez faire lettres de noz sealx / priue et grant au dit Bartholomeu en due fourme. Donez souz nostre secre seal a Loundres le .xxiiij. iour / de Marz. Lan de nostre regne Neuisme

[1] *de nostre mein* interlineated.

PLATE XXIII, A

P.R.O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 152, m. 6.

A.D. 1320.

The later entries in this example are written in a less careful hand than the earlier, but both are quite different from the hands customary about twenty years earlier in the same court (see Plate XIX B). The style of writing is less ornamented and singularly neat and regular in appearance. Capitals and marks of abbreviation are smaller and less emphasized. Floreated heads have almost vanished, and the looped heads which replace them show the fourteenth-century tendency to triangular spaces.

Individual letters. *A* is either the running type or an enlarged *a*. The looped head and enlarged bow of *b* make it easy to confuse it with *v* in a careless hand (cf. *obsequium* and *vt* fourth line from end). The head of *d* is rounder and almost the same size as the bowed body. The loop of *e* is larger in proportion to the tail. *f* and *s* have the tail looped up behind. *i* is sometimes marked by a semicircular accent; *ii* are sometimes unaccented, the second *i* being produced (*iidem* l. 17): *I* has now only a simple hook at the head. Initial *m* when of the uncial type is probably a semi-capital. *N* is now always rounded, the gate-shaped *N* having disappeared. *r* is forked about half-way down the stem and has a shoulder; the round form, only used after *o*, has no tail. The tail of short *s* is very large and rounded: this form is not used medially. The stem of *t* does not project far above the cross except rarely after *c* (*rectis* l. 18). The right-hand limb of *y* is almost straight. *z* is tailed like the *-us* abbreviation.

The **abbreviations** are as usual. The only **ligature** is *st*, but *d* is written very closely with *c* and *e*, and *pp* is very closely written.

The **punctuation** is by commas and full stops. The **paragraph mark** resembles a double *c*. The small *o* mark in the margin and text is probably by a later hand.

There is a **ruled** margin.

Pro Matheo de Penfern clerico

℣ Rex omnibus ad quos etcetera, salutem. Sciatis quod per finem quem Matheus de Penfern clericus fecit nobiscum, concessimus et licenciam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est Oliuero de / Carmynou quod ipse concedere possit, quod Maneria de Merthyn Wynyentonia et Kenel que de nobis tenentur in capite vt de Comitatu Cornubie sicut per inquisicionem quam per dilectum / et fidelem nostrum Ricardum de Rodeneye Escaetorem nostrum citra Trentam fieri fecimus est compertum, et que Iohanna que fuit vxor Rogeri de Carmynou tenet[1] in dotem

[1] *tenet*: the scribe wrote a *d* and altered it to a *t*.

de / hereditate ipsius Oliueri, que eciam post mortem ipsius Iohanne ad prefatum Oliuerum et heredes suos reuerti deberent, post mortem eiusdem Iohanne remaneant prefato / Matheo, habenda et tenenda sibi et heredibus suis de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia inde debita et consueta imperpetuum, et eidem Matheo tenore presencium similiter licenciam / dedimus specialem [1], quod ipse recepto attornamento ipsius Iohanne de Maneriis predictis concedere possit, quod predicta Maneria cum pertinenciis que sibi per mortem eiusdem Iohanne virtute / concessionis et attornamenti predictorum vt predictum est remanere deberent, post mortem eiusdem Iohanne remaneant prefato Oliuero et Elizabethe vxori eius, habenda et tenenda / post mortem prefate Iohanne, eisdem Oliuero et Elizabethe et heredibus de corporibus ipsorum Oliueri et Elizabethe exeuntibus, de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia supradicta imperpetuum. / Et si iidem Oliuerus et Elizabetha sine herede de corporibus suis exeunte obierint, tunc predicta Maneria cum pertinenciis post mortem predictorum Iohanne Oliueri et Elizabethe, Iohanni fratri / eiusdem Oliueri remaneant, habenda et tenenda sibi et heredibus suis de corpore suo legitime procreatis de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia supradicta imperpetuum. Et si idem Iohannes / sine herede de corpore suo legitime procreato obierit, tunc predicta Maneria cum pertinenciis post mortem predictorum Iohanne Oliueri, Elizabethe et Iohannis Ricardo fratri eiusdem Iohannis / remaneant, habenda et tenenda sibi et heredibus suis de corpore suo legitime procreatis, de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia supradicta imperpetuum. Et si idem Ricardus sine herede / de corpore suo legitime procreato obierit, tunc Maneria predicta cum pertinenciis post mortem predictorum Iohanne Oliueri, Elizabethe Iohannis et Ricardi, Minano fratri eiusdem Ricardi / remaneant, habenda et tenenda sibi et heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia supradicta imperpetuum. Et si idem Minanus sine herede de corpore suo / legitime procreato, obierit, tunc predicta Maneria cum pertinenciis post mortem predictorum Iohanne Oliueri Elizabethe Iohannis Ricardi et Minani, Willelmo Walebrens et Iohanne vxori eius / remaneant, habenda et tenenda eisdem Willelmo et Iohanne vxori eius et heredi-

[1] *specialem* : the bow of the *p* is continued to the left till it touches the *s*.

bus de corporibus ipsorum Willelmi et Iohanne vxoris eius exeuntibus de nobis et heredibus nostris per seruicia / supradicta imperpetuum. Et si iidem Willelmus et Iohanna sine herede de corporibus suis exeunte, obierint, tunc predicta Maneria cum pertinenciis post mortem predictorum Iohanne que fuit / vxor predicti Rogeri, Oliueri, Elizabethe, Iohannis, Ricardi, Minani, Willelmi et Iohanne vxoris eius rectis heredibus predicti Oliueri remaneant, habenda et tenenda sibi et heredibus suis de nobis / et heredibus nostris per seruicia predicta imperpetuum. Nolentes quod predicti Oliuerus et Elizabetha vel heredes sui, seu predictus Matheus aut heredes sui racione premissorum per nos vel heredes nostros / Iusticias, escaetores, vicecomites, aut alios balliuos seu ministros nostros quoscumque occasionentur, molestentur in aliquo seu grauentur. In cuius etcetera. Teste. Rege apud Westmonasterium .iiij. die Iunii. / per finem quadraginta solidorum. /

Pro Rege de prouidencia facienda[1]

℣ Rex omnibus amicis et fidelibus suis ad quos etcetera. salutem. Cum pro quibusdam negociis nos tangentibus simus ad partes transmarinas dante domino in proximo profecturi et premittamus / dilectum et fidelem nostrum Iohannem de Westonia Militem ad hospicia pro nobis et fidelibus nostris qui ad easdem partes nobiscum sunt venturi capienda, vos amicos rogamus / vobis fidelibus mandantes quod eidem Iohanni in premissis sitis consulentes et auxiliantes, quociens et quando per ipsum Iohannem super hoc ex parte nostra fueritis requisiti / In cuius etcetera. vsque ad festum Assumpcionis beate Marie proximo futurum duraturas. Teste. Rege. apud Westmonasterium tercio die Iunii. per ipsum Regem. /

℣ Rex omnibus amicis et fidelibus suis ad quos etcetera, salutem. Cum pro quibusdam negociis nos tangentibus etcetera vt supra, et premittamus dilectum seruientem nostrum Ricardum de Nortonia[2] pro vino[3] / ad opus nostrum in dictis partibus prouidendo pro nobis et fidelibus nostris qui nobiscum ad easdem partes sunt venturi, vos amicos rogamus vobis fidelibus mandantes quod eidem Ricardo / in premissis sitis consulentes et auxiliantes quociens et quando per ipsum Ricardum super hoc ex

[1] *facienda*: the *f* has been altered from an abbreviated *pro*.
[2] Note this form of capital *N*.
[3] The end of this word is uncertain.

parte nostra fueritis requisiti. In cuius etcetera. duraturas vt supra Teste. Rege. apud Westmonasterium / quinto die Iunii. per ipsum Regem. /

℣ Consimiles literas habent subscripti videlicet. /

℣ Adam Cocus /

℣ Petrus de Lescuseria. /

De proteccione

℣ Iohannes de Hastinges qui cum Rege in obsequium Regis per preceptum Regis profecturus est ad partes transmarinas, habet literas Regis de proteccione cum clausula vsque ad festum Assumpcionis beate / Marie proximo futurum duraturas. presentibus etcetera. Teste. vt supra. per ipsum Regem. /

℣ Consimiles literas Regis de proteccione habent subscripti qui cum prefato Iohanne profecturi sunt vt supra. videlicet. /

℣ Iohannes de Whelnetham clericus.

℣ Petrus de Grandisono.

℣ Guido de Mancestria.

[2nd Col.]

℣ Rogerus filius Thome[1] de Leukenore.

℣ Ricardus de Byrchestonia.

℣ Iohannes de Waldegraue.

[3rd Col.]

℣ Stephanus Creuker. /

℣ Thomas de sancto Andrea. /

℣ Ricardus de Frollebury. /

℣ Magister Iohannes de Stratford' Archidiaconus Lincolniensis qui cum Rege in obsequium Regis profecturus est vt supra habet consimiles literas de proteccione duraturas vt[2] supra. presentibus etcetera. Teste vt supra. per ipsum Regem. /

℣ Consimiles literas Regis de proteccione habent subscripti qui cum prefato Archidiacono profecturi sunt in obsequium Regis vt supra videlicet. /

℣ Iohannes de Stratford' persona ecclesie de Ouerbury.

℣ Ricardus de Ragenhull' persona ecclesie de Bernolby

℣ Walterus de Harpham persona ecclesie de Peueltonia

[2nd Col.]

℣ Willelmus de Harpcote.

℣ Nicholaus de Stratford'. /

℣ Willelmus de Graftonia. /

[3rd Col.]

℣ Iohannes de Madeleye /

℣ Robertus de Vmfrauilla Comes de Anegos qui in obsequium Regis profecturus est vt supra habet consimiles literas duraturas vt supra Teste vt supra. /

[1] *filius Thome* interlineated.

[2] *vt*: the abbreviation for *et* is used here by mistake.

℔ Consimiles literas habent subscripti qui cum prefato Roberto profecturi sunt vt[1] supra. videlicet /

℔ Thomas de Essh' /

℔ Robertus de Aspale /

De Attornatis

℔ Magister Robertus de Baldok' clericus qui cum Rege in obsequium Regis etcetera profecturus est vt supra, habet literas Regis de attornatu sub nominibus Magistri Ricardi de Baldok' et Magistri Roberti Renaud / duraturas vt supra. presentibus etcetera. Teste. vt supra. /

[2] ℔ Iohannes Sturmy qui cum Rogero Dammory in obsequium Regis profecturus est ad partes transmarinas. habet literas Regis de proteccione cum clausula volumus duraturas vt supra Teste. Rege apud Thunderle .x. / die Iunii. vacat quia aliter inferius.

PLATE XXIII, B

P.R.O. Sheriffs' Accounts (Exchequer, K.R.), Bundle 49, No. 8.

A.D. 1320.

This document is in a somewhat formal hand, probably written by an Exchequer official. The style recalls that of Plate XXII A, especially in the evenness and neatness of the writing. The forked head only survives in *I* and occasionally in *h*: some of the tall letters are still looped, but most of them have large rounded hooks.

Individual letters. The lower bow of *d* is somewhat sharply pointed. *e* has a large loop and looks as though it lay on its back. *F* is formed of two small *f*'s. The bow of *h* starts from the foot of the stem and is sharply angled. *i* has usually a semicircular accent. *m* and *n* are distinguishable from *i* and *u*. *r* is simply forked, with little or no shoulder; the round form is usually employed after *v* and has a very sharp hook. The short *s* has a looped tail and is not used medially.

Abbreviations. Suspensions are frequent and the signs are usually carried on from the last letter. The *-rum* sign is used after *a* as well as *o*.

Ligatures. *st* and *pp* may be regarded as ligatures; besides this bowed letters are written close (*imponendis* l. 36).

Notice the word *Indentura* in ornamental capitals, cut through by the indented head of the document.

In **punctuation** diagonal dashes are used as well as full stops and commas. The symbol at the head, possibly representing *est*, may indicate that the two parts of the indenture have been duly collated.

[1] *vt* interlineated.

[2] This entry is in the wrong place on the roll and is accordingly vacated.

INDENTURA.

Memorandum quod dominus Simon Warde vicecomes Eboracsire recepit sextodecimo die Februarii anno Regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi terciodecimo per visum Nicholai de Acton clerici Magistri Iacobi de Ispania Camerarii / de scaccario ; res et vtensilia infra scripta ad scaccarium. Bancum Regis et Commune Bancum pertinencia in recessu dictorum scaccarii et Bancorum in Castro Eboraci remanentia videlicet; in placea de scaccario ; vnum scaccarium magnum continens / tresdecim pedes in longitudine et in latitudine duodecim pedes bene bordatum de .xviij. bordis de Fur. cum .iiij^{or}. listis de quercu cum tribus magnis gistis de quercu dictum scaccarium supportantibus. quatuor scanna / circa scaccarium de bordis de quercu densa cum duobus retrodorsariis de Fraxino. Item .j. speram de Fraxino cum vna columpna de quercu. Item .vj. gistas de quercu positas sub scannis predictis. Item .j. hostium infra scaccarium/iuxta speram predictam. vnam magnam barram [ad scaccarium] continentem in longitudine .xlij. pedes de latitudine aule scaccarii cum .ij. paruis hostiis ligno bene ligatis. et barris pro dictis hostiis firmandis bordatam cum .lvj. bordis de / quercu. cum .ij. postibus ad dicta hostia de quercu [.Item .j.] barram retro Camerarios et Marescallum cum .ij. postibus de quercu bordatam cum .xx. bordis de quercu .j. magnum plancherium longitudine .xij. pedes. ante pedes Baronum .j. formulam pro cleri/cis breuium longitudine .viij. pedes. Item vnum interclausum circa dominum Adam de Lymbergh' vnum Rememoratorum Regis de scaccario. cuius vna pars continet in longitudine .xij. pedes bene bordata de .xj. bordis de quercu et continet / in altitudine .vj. pedes cum vno hostio ad introitum cum .j. gista continente .xij. pedes in longitudine. Et altera in latitudine .viij. pedes. bene bordata cum bordis tribus de predicta longitudine. et xij. bordos paruos cum vna barra / de quinque pedibus. Item tria parua scanna de tribus bordis de Pople. Item .j. sedes pro dicto Rememoratore. et .j. paruam barram inter Barones et clericos dicti Rememoratoris, Item in placea domini Roberti de Notyngham alterius Rememoratoris .ij. scanna / de .iiij. bordis. Item .j. paruum scaccarium retro Rememoratorem continens .x. pedes in longitudine bene bordatum de Fur. Et in latitudine continens .v. pedes et dimidium. cum .ij. formulis de Alneto supportantibus dictum scaccarium continentibus .x. pedes in / longitudine cum .ij. scannis de tribus paruis gistis de quercu de eadem longitudine. Item duo parua scaccaria pro compotis forincecis. de quibus vnum continet in longitudine .vj. pedes et dimidium. Et in latitudine .v. pedes et dimidium. / bene bordatum

de .viij. bordis de Fur. cum quatuor listis de quercu. Et aliud scaccarium continet in latitudine .v. pedes et dimidium. Et in longitudine .v. pedes et dimidium. bene bordatum de .vij. bordis de Fur. cum quatuor listis de / quercu cum .v. formulis circa dicta scaccaria. Item .j. barram de quercu continentem in longitudine .xij. pedes cum .xxiiij. bordis de quercu cum .ij. postibus de quercu ad introitum. Item .j. interclausum inter .ij. postes ad introitum scaccarii continens / in longitudine .xxij. pedes. bene bordatum de .xij. bordis estlandicis de quercu. et continet in altitudine .vij. pedes cum vno hostio de quercu continente .vj. bordos. cum vna magna gista de quercu supposita. et .j. gista de / Fur superposita vtraque gista continet in longitudine .xxij. pedes. Item .j. interclausum inter dicta parua scaccaria cum vna barra continens in longitudine .x. pedes bene bordatum de .xx. bordis de quercu. Et cum vna sulla de quer/cu iuxta .j. paruum scaccarium.[1]

Item in camera de consilio .iiij. formulas. de quibus .j. continet in longitudine .xiij. pedes. et tres quarum quilibet continet in longitudine .ix. pedes. De quibus tres sunt de quercu / et .j. de Fur. Item .iij. magnas gistas de quercu. de quibus quelibet continet .xiiij. pedes in longitudine.

Item in scaccario Recepte .j. scaccarium magnum continens in longitudine .xj. pedes. et in latitudine .viij. pedes / bene bordatum de .xj. bordis de Fur bene listatum de listis de alneto. cum .ij. formulis de alneto supportantibus dictum scaccarium de dicta longitudine .iiij. bonas formulas de quercu de quibus due formule [quarum] quelibet continet / in longitudine .xj. pedes. et alie due formule quarum quelibet continet in longitudine .xiij. pedes. Item .j. bordum de quercu densa de longitudine .ix. pedum. Item .ij. bordos de Fur quorum quilibet continet in / longitudine .x. pedes. Item .ij. barras cum tribus postibus de quercu cum .ij. aliis barris attachiatis postibus predictis. Item .j. speram retro clericos Recepte continentem in longitudine .xvij. pedes bene bordatam cum .xx. bordis de quercu. / quilibet bordus de altitudine .vij. pedum. cum .iij. postibus de quercu. et .j. paruam gistam vltra dictam speram de longitudine .xvij. pedum. Item. j. hostium ad ingressum Recepte iuxta dictam speram cum suo apparatu. /

Item in Banco domini Regis .iij. scanna pro Iusticiariis et clericis in superiori gradu quorum quodlibet continet in longitudine .xxvij. pedes bene bordata de planchiis de quercu cum vno interclauso de .iij. planchiis de / quercu inter pedes Iusticiarum et clericos de eodem scanno cum .iiij. paruis gistis dicta scanna supportantibus de longitudine predicta. Item .j. barreram magnam bene bordatam

[1] We have divided the text into paragraphs for convenience.

de .xxvij. bordis de quercu continentem in longitudine / .xiiij. pedes et dimidium. Item .j. scannum de bordis de quercu de eadem longitudine. Item .j. paruum scannum bordatum de .j. planchia de quercu continens .vij. pedes. Item .j. paruam barreram de longitudine .viij. pedum / bene bordatam de .xv. bordis de quercu. Item .j. paruum scannum de eadem longitudine longitudine [*sic*] de planchiis de quercu. Item .j. scaccarium in dicto Banco de longitudine .xx. pedum bene bordatum de .vj. / bordis de Pople. et in latitudine .vj. pedes cum .iiij. magnis trestellis dictum scaccarium supportantibus de latitudine eiusdem scaccarii. Item .ij. formulas quarum vna est .j. gista de quercu continens .xij. pedes. et alia est de / planchiis de quercu continens .vij. pedes. Item ad ingressum dicti Banci vnum hostium de .iij. bordis bene apparatum cum vna spera de .ij. bordis iuxta dictum hostium.

In communi Banco .iiij. scanna pro Iusticiis et clericis in superiori gradu / quorum quodlibet continet in longitudine .xxvij. pedes vndique bene bordata de quercu cum vno retrodorsario inter Iusticiarios et clericos suos cum .iiij. gistis supportantibus dicta scanna de longitudine predicta. Item ex opposito scanni / Iusticiarum. j. magnam barram de quercu de dicta longitudine bene bordatam de .xxxv. bordis de quercu. Item .ij. scanna sub dicta barra de longitudine .xxvij. pedum cum tribus magnis gistis supportantibus dicta scanna. / Item .j. barram versus scaccarium Recepte continentem de longitudine .xix. pedes bene bordatam de .xxvij. bordis de quercu. cum vno scanno sub dicta barra vndique bordato de bordis de quercu. cum .iij. gistis supportantibus dictum / scannum. Item .j. barram versus Thesaurariam continentem in longitudine .xij. pedes bene bordatam de .xv. bordis de quercu. cum .ij. scannis vndique bene bordatis de bordis de quercu. cum tribus gistis dicta scanna supportantibus. Item / .j. scaccarium continens in longitudine .xxj. pedes. Et in latitudine .ix. pedes et dimidium. bene bordatum de .xv. planchiis de quercu cum .iiij^{or}. listis circa dictum scaccarium. cum tribus gistis de quercu continentibus .xxj. pedes sub dicto / scaccario. et iiij^{or}. gistis magnis continentibus latitudinem dicti scaccarii, appositis super .viij. postes de quercu dictum scaccarium supportantes. Item .j. barram ad introitum ad dictum Bancum bene bordatam de .vj. bordis de quercu cum .j. hostio de / .v. bordis de quercu bene apparato. Item vnum gradum de .v. passubus ad introitum Iusticiarum in Bancum. Item .ij. magnas gistas ante barram dicti Banci sub pedibus seruientum continentes in longitudine .xx. pedes. /

Item recepit .ij. fenestras vitreas in fenestris scaccarii Recepte positas precii; xv.s x.d. Item .j. magnam cistam ferro ligatam emptam

de Albreda Flemyng' pro dicto scaccario Recepte. / precii ; xx.s. Item .j. Coffrum emptum de Iohanne de Scroby pro contratalleis de scaccario imponendis precii ; viij.s. Item .j. Cofrum emptum de Willelmo de Portyngtonia pro huiusmodi contratalleis imponendis precii ; viij.s. / Item .j. Coffrum emptum de Adam de Dentonia pro officio Ade de Lymbergh' precii ; vj.s. Item .j. cofrum emptum de Ricardo de Wetewang' pro officio Roberti de Notyngham Rememoratoris scaccarii. precii ; viij.s. Item / .j. cistam emptam de Iohanne le Lunge pro officio predicti Roberti precii .xviij.s. Item .ij. Coffros emptos de Nicholao de Cattonia pro officio clerici placitorum precii ; x.s. vj.d. Item .j. Coffrum emptum de predicto Ricardo de We/tewang' pro officio Marescalli de scaccario precii ; viij.s. Item .j. cistam emptam de predicto Nicholao de Cattonia pro officio predicti Ade de Lymbergh' vnius Rememoratorum precii ; x.s. Item .j. huchiam emptam pro hostiario de / Recepta ; ad Receptam. precii ; iiij.s. Item. x. dolea vacua cum valuis. in quibus rotuli de scaccario et de communi Banco imponebantur. In cuius Rei testimonium ; per visum domini Heruici de Stantonia Cancellarii de / de [*sic*] scaccario et Iohannis de Okham Baronis de eodem ; predicti vicecomes et Nicholaus huic Indenture sigilla sua alternatim[1] apposuerunt. Data apud Eboracum die et anno supradictis. Memorandum quod dominus Willelmus de Popeltonia clericus / dicti vicecomitis habet vnam cistam de officio predicti Roberti de Notyngham precii .viij. solidorum

PLATE XXIV, A

P. R. O. Controlment Roll (King's Bench), No. 4, m. 17.

A. D. 1339.

This example should be compared with Plate XXI A. The writing, though not more rapid, is less tidy in appearance, the forms of the letters less decided. The tall letters have now somewhat angular hooks, and there is an increasing tendency to triangular spaces (e.g. the *l* in *Redenhale* l. 3). Notice particularly the line of cursive writing at the foot.

Individual letters. *c* and *t* are scarcely distinguishable. *d* has lost its emphatic down-stroke, and is now merely a pair of narrow bows. *e* has come to resemble an *o* with a thick vertical division, and is on its way to develop into the later horizontally divided form (*diem* in the cursive writing, l. 58). The bow of *h* is sharply hooked. *i* is frequently dotted, the dot being written on to the tail of the letter when final : the second of two *i*s is sometimes produced. *r* is simply forked without a shoulder ; the round form has frequently a short tail and is only used after *o*. Initial *u* only occurs in the cursive hand.

[1] *alternatim* interlineated.

Abbreviations. The sign for *-er* is used as well as the line over the letter as a simple sign of abbreviation.

Punctuation. The comma and the full stop are used, as also a long dash to mark considerable breaks. The **paragraph mark** is like *ss*.

Norffolcia rotulo .xxij

℗ Dies datus est tam Iohanni de Lincolnia qui sequitur pro domino Rege, quam Antonio Episcopo Norwici per Thomam de Totyn/tonia attornatum suum, de placito quod idem Episcopus permittat ipsum Regem presentare idoneam personam ad Decanatum de / Redenhale que vacat, et ad nostram spectat donacionem racione Episcopatus Norwici nuper vacantis et in manu Regis exis/tentis, coram Rege in Octabis sancte Trinitatis vbicumque etcetera eo quod dominus Rex nondum informatur etcetera—— / Ad quem diem placitauit prout patet in sequenti /

Berkescira rotulo .xxij.

℗ Dominus Rex mandauit vicecomiti Berkescire breue suum in hec verba——Edwardus dei gracia Rex Anglie / Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitanie vicecomiti Berkescire salutem. Quia datum est nobis intelligi quod Iohannes atte Lude et Iohannes / Edmundus et Thomas filii eiusdem Iohannis atte Lude, Hugo Staly, Iohannes Ionesseruaunt atte Lude, Iohannes Pyk' et Ricardus / Sprot' ac quidem (*sic*) alii malefactores et pacis nostre perturbatores Willelmum Hobbe de Medmenham Fisshere apud Hurle / in Comitatu tuo, vi et armis ceperunt, et vt grauem redempcionem[1] ab eo extorqueant ipsum in prisona et compedibus secum / detinuerunt et ipsum sic in prisona ad loca ignota postmodum duxerunt et ipsum sic in prisona adhuc detinent in nostri contemp/tum et pacis nostre lesionem et vite ipsius Willelmi periculum manifestum[2] et perniciosum exemplum aliis malefactoribus taliter delinquendi / Nos super premissis plenius cerciorari; et vlterius remedium in premissis apponere volentes, Tibi precipimus quod assumptis / tecum custodibus placitorum corone nostre per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de Comitatu tuo per quos rei veritas melius sciri / poterit diligenter inquiras de nominibus[2] malefactorum predictorum qui premissa perpetrarunt et ad que loca dicti malefactores predictum / Willelmum duxerunt [*sic*] et vbi nunc existat, et de premissis omnibus et singulis plenius veritatem

[1] The scribe began with a *c* which he altered to *r*. [2] Interlineation.

Et / inquisicionem inde distincte et aperte factam nobis in Cancellaria nostra sub sigillo tuo et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuerit / sine dilacione mittas et hoc breue Teste. Edwardo Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo custode Anglie / apud Berkhamstede .vij. die Aprilis anno. regni. nostri terciodecimo.——Pretextu cuius breuis predictus vicecomes misit / in Cancellariam Regis quandam inquisicionem super premissis factam in hec verba. Inquisicio facta apud Hurle / pretextu cuiusdam breuis domini Regis die lune in crastino sancti Marcii (*sic*) Ewangeliste anno regni regis Edwardi tercii / post conquestum terciodecimo, coram Iohanne de Aluetonia vicecomite Berkescire assumpto secum Iohanne le Despenser Coronatore / domini Regis libertatis septem hundredorum de Cokham et Braye per sacramentum Reginaldi atte Hale Walteri le Cok', / Thome atte Chaumbre Petri filii Turrici atte Ferne Henrici Dismars Iohannis de Bournham Iohannis le Tyghe/lere Ricardi de Shobenhangre Nicholai atte Groue Iohannis filii Alexandri Coci, Iohannis Pycard et Iohannis le Mareschal / Qui dicunt per sacramentum suum quod Iohannes atte Lude et Iohannes et Edmundus filii eiusdem Iohannis atte Lude Iohannes / Ionesseruaunt atte Lude Iohannes Spyk' et Ricardus Sprot die lune proxima ante festum Annunciacionis dominice anno regni / Regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum terciodecimo Willelmum Hobbe de Medmenham Fisshere apud Hurle in / Comitatu Berkescire vi et armis ceperunt et vt grauem redempcionem ab eo extorqueant ipsum in prisona et in compe/dibus manibus suis retro ligatis, secum detinuerunt et ipsum sic in prisona ad loca ignota in Comitatu Bukinghamie / postmodum duxerunt et ipsum sic in prisona ibidem adhuc detinent. in contemptum domini Regis et pacis sue / lesionem et vite ipsius Willelmi periculum manifestum et perniciosum exemplum aliis malefactoribus taliter delinquendi / In cuius rei testimonium huic inquisicioni predicti Iuratores sigilla sua apposuerunt Data apud Hurle die Lune / in crastino sancti Marci Ewangeliste anno. regni Regis. Edwardi tercii post conquestum terciodecimo.——Quam quidem / inquisicionem vna cum breui predicto dominus Rex misit a Cancellaria sua Iusticiis suis hic per breue suum sub pede / sigilli[1] sui in hec verba.——Edwardus dei gracia Rex

[1] i.e. under the half-seal, the reverse being blank.

Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitanie dilectis et fide-/ libus suis Ricardo de Wylughby et sociis suis Iusticiariis ad placita coram nobis tenenda assignatis Salutem. Mittimus vobis / sub pede sigilli nostri inquisicionem per vicecomitem nostrum Berkescire de mandato nostro factam et in Cancellaria nostra retor/natam super quibusdam facinoribus et excessibus, Willelmo Hobbe de Medmenham Fisshere in Comitatu predicto in nostri / contemptum et contra pacem nostram vt dicitur factis, Mandantes quod inspecta inquisicione predicta vlterius / inde fieri faciatis quod de Iure et secundum legem et consuetudinem regni nostri fuerit faciendum Teste. Edwardo / Duce Cornubie Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo custode Anglie apud Berkhamstede viij. die Maii. anno / regni nostri terciodecimo.—— Quibus inspectis preceptum est vicecomiti Berkescire et eciam vicecomiti Bukingehamscire quod capiant / predictos Iohannem atte Lude et alios si inuenti etcetera Et saluo etcetera Ita quod habeant corpora eorum coram Rege / in Octabis sancte Trinitatis vbicumque etcetera——[1] Ad quas Octabas sancte Trinitatis coram domino Rege / apud Norwicum venit predictus Iohannes atte Lude et reddidit se prisone Marescalli Regis. hic in Curia etcetera. Et allocutus qualiter / se velit de excessibus et transgressionibus predictis acquietare, dicit quod ipse est dominus Manerii de Medmenham in Comitatu Bukinghamie / et predictus Willelmus Hobbe de cuius capcione indictatus est, est Natiuus ipsius Iohannis Manerii. predicti. et idem Iohannes / seisitus est de predicto Willelmo Hobbe et seruiciis suis que ad villanum pertinent faciendis tanquam de Natiuo suo / Et quia idem Willelmus ad Curiam predicti Iohannis tentam apud Manerium suum de Medmenham die lune proxima / post festum Purificacionis beate Marie virginis anno. regni regis nunc terciodecimo, fuit electus ad officium prepositi in Manerio predicto / et ad officium illud intendere penitus recusauit, predictus Iohannes ipsum Willelmum tanquam Natiuum suum et inobedientem / ibidem cepit et in ceppis posuit ad ipsum iustificandum prout moris est sicut ei bene licuit absque hoc / quod ipse aliquam transgressionem contra pacem Regis fecit prefato Willelmo apud Hurle in Comitatu Berkescire prout superius / presentatum est et de hoc ponit se super patriam. Ideo

[1] The remainder of the entry is written subsequently, but apparently in the same hand.

veniat inde Iurata coram domino Rege a die sancti Michaelis/ in xv. dies vbicumque etcetera tam de Comitatu Berkescire quam Bukinghamie ad recognoscendum etcetera Et predictus Iohannes atte Lude. ponit. loco. / suo Willelmum de Langar vel Alexandrum de Boudonia versus dominum Regem in loquela predicta etcetera.——[1] processus patet in/ sequenti uersus alios——Ad quem diem dicit Iurata prout patet in sequenti

PLATE XXIV, B

P. R. O. De Banco Roll (Common Pleas), No. 401, m. 169.

A. D. 1360.

This specimen should be compared with Plate XXIV A. The writing is more hurried and untidy, but the principal change consists in the increasing angularity of the heads and tails of the letters and the resulting triangular form of the spaces.

Individual letters. *B* is almost round. *c* and *t* are indistinguishable. *d* retains its emphatic down-stroke, now very oblique. *e* is made in one stroke and almost turned over, the thick stroke which completes the bow being nearly horizontal (*de* l. 1). The bow of *h* begins from the foot of the stem and is curved under the line. *i* is usually accented, the semicircular accent sometimes becoming a knot (*seruientem* l. 26). *r* is simply forked without any shoulder, the round form, only used after *o*, has usually a tail. Long *s* is only medial. *v*, used initially only, is sharply angled. *z* has a tail and is indistinguishable from the *us* termination (*Louedoutz* l. 20).

Abbreviations. As in most documents of this class suspensions are numerous. The common sign of abbreviation is an almost straight line, but the *er* sign is sometimes used. The signs are usually written on to the ends of the words. Note the extremely simplified sign for *etcetera* in the third, fourth, and fifth entries.

There are no real **ligatures**, but bowed letters are frequently written together (*de* l. 1). **Punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons. The **paragraph mark** resembles *ss*. The **symbol** in the margin is probably a *p*, perhaps referring to the *preceptum* in the text.

Norffolkia. ℙ Simon de Fornsete per Willelmum de Hornyng' attornatum suum optulit se iiij^{to}. die versus Alexandrum Vyuien de [placito]/ quod reddat ei racionabilem compotum
p suum de tempore quo fuit receptor denariorum ipsius Simonis. Et ipse non [venit]/ Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti quod summoneret eum Et vicecomes modo mandat quod

[1] The last few words are in a later and more hasty hand.

nichil habet etcetera Ideo preceptum est vicecomiti quod capiat [eum] / si etcetera Et eum saluo etcetera Ita quod habeat corpus eius hic a die Pasche in tres septimanas per Iusticias etcetera Et vnde [etcetera] /

Norffolkia ℙ Radulfus Cook' Ciuis Norwici per Willelmum de Hornyng' attornatum suum optulit. se iiij^to die versus Walterum Sm. . . / de Norwico Iohannem loksmyth' de

p Bradefeld' Robertum Smyth' de Brisele et Robertum Scut' de Northelm[ham] / de placito quod reddant ei viginti libras quas ei debent et iniuste detinent etcetera Et ipsi non veniunt Et [preceptum] / fuit vicecomiti quod summoneret eos Et vicecomes modo mandat quod predictus Walterus summonitus est Iudicium attachietur quod sit / hic a die Pasche in tres septimanas per Iusticias Et de omnibus aliis mandat vicecomes quod nichil habent etcetera Ideo preceptum / est vicecomiti quod capiat eos si etcetera Et eos saluo etcetera Ita quod habeat corpora eorum hic ad prefatum terminum etcetera Et / vnde etcetera /

Norffolkia ℙ Iohannes de Herlyng' et Iohannes de More per attornatum suum optulerunt. se iiij^to die versus Thomam filium Roberti le Long de Noua Bokenham [1] de placito quod / reddat eis

p racionabilem compotum suum de tempore quo fuit receptor denariorum ipsorum Iohannis et Iohannis Et ipse non venit Et preceptum / fuit vicecomiti quod summoneret eum. Et vicecomes modo mandat quod nichil habet Ideo preceptum est vicecomiti quod capiat eum si etcetera Et saluo etcetera Ita quod habeat / corpus eius hic a die Pasche in tres septimanas per Iusticias etcetera /

Norffolkia ℙ Iohannes de Herlyng' per attornatum suum optulit. se iiij^to die versus Henricum Sporle de placito quod reddat ei

p racionabilem compotum suum de / tempore quo fuit receptor denariorum ipsius Iohannis Et ipse non venit Et attachiatus est per Willelmum Randes et Willelmum Piers Ideo / in misericordia. Et preceptum est vicecomiti quod distringat eum per omnes terras etcetera. Et quod de exitibus etcetera Et quod habeat corpus eius hic a die Pasche [in] / tres septimanas per Iusticias etcetera /

Norffolkia ℙ Robertus Louedoutz per Iohannem Brandonia attornatum suum optulit. se iiij^to die versus Heruicum Bulwere et Iohannem Iake de placito / quod vterque eorum reddat ei quadraginta solidos quos ei debet et iniuste detinet etcetera. Et ipsi non veniunt Et preceptum fuit / vicecomiti quod

[1] Interlineation of three words.

summoneret eos Et vicecomes modo mandat quod nichil habent Ideo preceptum est vicecomiti quod capiat eos si etcetera Et saluo etcetera. Ita quod habeat / corpora eorum hic a die Pasche in tres septimanas per Iusticias etcetera. /

Norffolkia. ℙ Prior de Westacre per Willelmum Bergh' attornatum suum optulit se iiij^to. die versus Thomam Rightwys Iuniorem / de placito quare cum idem Prior in feodo suo apud

p Lenne Episcopi pro consuetudinibus et seruiciis sibi debitis / per Thomam Wyther seruientem suum queda[m] catalla capi fecisset et idem Thomas Wyther catalla / illa ibidem nomine districcionis secundum legem et consuetudinem regni Regis Anglie detinere voluisset; predictus / Thomas Rightwys catalla predicta eidem Thome Wyther vi et armis abstulit et alia enormia ei / intulit ad graue dampnum ipsius Prioris et contra pacem Regis Et ipse non venit Et districtus est per / catalla ad valenciam sex

vj.d. denariorum Et manucapitur per Iohannem lomb Iohannem de Couteshale Adam Clerk' et / Hugonem de Bilneye

vj.d. Ideo ipsi in misericordia Et sicut prius preceptum est vicecomiti quod distringat eum per omnes terras etcetera Et quod / de exitibus etcetera Et quod habeat corpus eius a die Pasche in tres septimanas. per Iusticias etcetera /

ℙ

Clxix Bergh'

PLATE XXV

P. R. O. Charter Roll (Chancery), No. 127, m. 4.

A. D. 1340.

[Printed: *Monasticon Anglicanum* (1817–30), vol. iv, p. 176.]

This specimen of Chancery enrolment hand should be compared with Plate XXIII A. The change shown is much the same as in the previous example, though the writing being more leisurely the general appearance is not quite so ragged; and the same general remarks apply.

Individual letters. Note the similarity of *A* and *D* (l. 15). *B* is so crookedly written as to risk confusion with *W*. *d* has now a very narrow looped head. *e* is frequently a circle with a diameter vertical or even sloped downwards to the right. The bow of *h* has a very sharp angle. *i* has usually a semicircular accent. *r* is now forked only a short way down and has no shoulder, so that an unskilled reader may easily take *ri* for *r*; the round form only occurs after *o*. *u* is not used initially.

The **abbreviations** are as usual, the special signs not being strictly used when over final letters. Tironian *et* is crossed.

The **punctuation** is by commas (short vertical dashes), semicolons, and full stops. Besides this the Charter is divided into sections by little circles corresponding with similar circles in the margin. These, however, are probably a later addition, as is the marginal 12. The **paragraph mark** resembles *cc.*

The margin has been **ruled**, probably by folding the parchment.

pro Abbate de Alyncestria de confirmacione

℗ Rex Archiepiscopis etc salutem. Inspeximus cartam celebris memorie domini. Stephani. dudum Regis Anglie progenitoris nostri in hec verba; Stephanus. Rex Anglorum/ Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Comitibus, Iusticiis, Baronibus vicecomitibus Ministris et omnibus fidelibus suis francis et Anglis tocius Anglie; salutem. Sciatis me
12 concessisse / in perpetuam elemosinam deo et sancte Marie de Insula omnes terras illas quas Radulfus Pincerna eis dedit et concessit videlicet Insulam et totam terram / suam dominicam de Cochemersa et capellam de Vuerlia cum appendiciis suis, et manerium suum de Pebbewurda, et ecclesiam de Merstona / cum appendiciis suis et ecclesiam 5
de Glen cum appendiciis suis, et ecclesiam de Taingwurda, et in Enpingha .xx.s. et molendinum de Grobi / et decimam de Vuerlia totam de dominico suo et dimidium molendini, et terram suam totam de Walteford' et de Chelcbruga, et terram suam de / Blinchesfeld totam preter .lx. solidatas quas inde dedit predictus Radulfus ecclesie sancti Nicasii de Metilento, et terciam partem de Pebbewurda de decima / sua de dominico suo, et medietatem decime sue de Cherle-
o tona, et duas partes decime de Rageleia o Quare volo et firmiter precipio quod / bene et in pace et libere et quiete et honorifice et plenarie[1] teneant Monachi in predicta ecclesia deo et sancte Marie seruientes cum soca et saca et toll' / et theam et Infangeneteof et cum omnibus consue- 10
tudinibus in bosco et plano et pratis et pasturis et in omnibus libertatibus cum quibus terre / ille erant tempore Roberti Comitis de Metllento, et preter hec concedo predicte ecclesie illud priuilegium et illam dignitatem quam habet ecclesia heboracensi [*sic*] / vel ecclesia sancte Marie de Wircestria quod Comes de Legrecestria per cartam suam confirmauit, Testibus. G. Comite de Metllento et. R. Comite Legrecestrie et Willelmo / Comite de Warenna et. H. Comite de Wiltes et Willelmo Comite Eboraci et Comite Simone et Roberto de Oilli et Willelmo de Ipra et Ernaldo de / bosco et Roberto Pincerna et Willelmo de Pinu apud

[1] *et plenarie* interlineated.

o Oxenefordam o Inspeximus eciam cartam domini. Henrici. quondam Regis Anglie progenitoris nostri in / hec verba ; Henricus. dei gracia Rex Anglorum et Dux Normannorum et Aquietanorum et Comes Andegauorum Archiepiscopis Episcopis Abbatibus, Comitibus, Baronibus, Iusticiis, / vicecomitibus, Ministris et omnibus fidelibus suis francis et Anglis clericis et laicis tocius Anglie; salutem. Sciatis me concessisse in perpetuam elemosinam / deo et ecclesie sancte Marie et sancti Iohannis Baptiste de Insula et Monachis ibidem deo seruientibus terras et tenuras ecclesias et decimas et molen/dinos et omnes redditus eis datos et concessos vbicumque sint in Anglia et omnes res quas Robertus Comes Legrecestrie et Radulfus Pincerna / Ouersleie fundatores eiusdem ecclesie eis adquisierunt et dederunt
o videlicet eandem Insulam in qua Monasterium situm est o, et totam Curiam eorum quam tenu/erunt in principio ecclesie sue de dominio de Alencestria cum molendino quod extra Curiam illam firmauerunt et fecerunt, et ex dono predicti Radulfi / Pincerne totam terram suam dominicam de Cokemersa cum duobus pratis Wdemedua et gosepolle medua et pratum sancti Iohannis Baptiste de Parco / et totam terram suam de Cherletona et tres hidas terre et dimidiam in manerio de Pebewrthia, et totam terram suam de Waltesforda et vnam / virgatam terre in Wimburna et totam terram suam de Chelbrug' et totam terram de Blingesfeld' cum omnibus appendiciis et consuetudinibus suis / exceptis .lx. solidis quos mihi dederat prefatus Radulfus Pincerna ecclesie sancti Nicasii de Mellent, et concedo eis capellam sancti Iacobi de Copehulla / cum capella sancti Petri que in eodem feudo site sunt, Concedo eciam eidem ecclesie ecclesiam de[1] Alencestria cum omnibus apendiciis et consuetudinibus / suis, et ermitorium de Caldwella cum omnibus pertinenciis et libertatibus suis, et ecclesiam de Arue, et capellam de Castello de Ouersleia / et ecclesiam de eadem villa, et decem acras de Budeleia, et ecclesiam de Merstona, et ecclesiam de Glen, et ecclesiam de Theingwrtha / cum omnibus apendiciis et
o libertatibus suis o Insuper concedo prefate ecclesie ecclesiam de Beoleia cum omnibus apendiciis et libertatibus suis, ex dono / Galfridi de Limesi, et ex dono Ricardi Freiuel ecclesiam de Pebewrthia cum omnibus apendiciis et libertatibus suis et vnam virgatam terre in / Merstona o et

[1] *de* interlineated.

totam decimam salis sui de Wihc, et ex dono Rogeri de Wateuilla, ecclesiam de Edbrihctona cum omnibus apendiciis et liber/tatibus suis, et vnam hidam terre in Ruitona que adiacet Westone, et preterea foris Ruitonam vnam culturam de dominio et pratum / quod est subtus eandem villam, nec non tantum de dominio ex vtraque parte vie vbi pene Bercherius mansit quod valeat terram suam / et Hugonis Aucupis cum predicta cultura, et preterea concedo predicte ecclesie vnam mansionem in Warewic, et molendinum de Groubi et/medietatem molendinorum de Ouersleia, et totam decimam de dominio de Ouersleia in agris in virgultis in vineis in nemoribus in parchis/in pratis in pis- 35
cariis, et totam decimam de pane de furno Ouersleie, et totam decimam de Budeleia et totam decimam de dominio / de Wichtlakesford', et totam decimam de dominio de Broma et de Mulecota et de Dorsintona, et totam decimam de dominio de / Cherletona, et duas garbas de dominio de Raggeleia, Concedo eciam supradicte ecclesie et Monachis ibidem deo seruientibus liberam eleccionem / Abbatum de proprio conuentu in Capitulo suo, hanc itaque libertatem et predictas terras et teneuras et ecclesias et decimas et omnes res / suas volo et firmiter precipio quod bene et in pace et quiete et honorifice et libere cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus et / quietanciis de murthro 40
et de sciris et de hundredis et placitis et querelis et aliis omnibus serviciis et consuetudinibus que ad me pertinent / in bosco et in plano in viis in semitis in pratis et pascuis in aquis et extra et in omnibus locis cum soca et saca et toll' et theam' et/infangenetheof, et in omnibus aliis consuetudinibus sicut aliqua ecclesia tocius regni mei de elemosina mea liberius et quiecius tenet, et / prohibeo ne quis eis super hec iniuriam vel molestiam faciat, Testibus Teedbaldo Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, Iohanne Wygornensi Episcopo / Roberto Comite Legcreestrie, Ricardo de Luci apud Westmonasterium Inspeximus insuper. . . .

PLATE XXVI

P.R.O. Pipe Roll (Exchequer L. T. R.), No. 191, ro. 14.

A. D. 1346.

This being the 'Great Roll' (of which several early examples have been given, Plates IV, V B, VIII, XI, XVI) is in a more formal hand than the other records of the department. The writing is upright, but in its

main characteristics not different from those of other hands of the same period already described. There is, however, more effort than usual to discriminate between similar letters.

Individual letters. *b*, being now hooked and not looped, is only distinguishable from *v* by its more upright form and the greater length of its stem. The lower bow of *d* is angular and the upper very narrow. Final *e* is a circle with a vertical division. The bow of *h* springs from half-way up the stem and is continued under the line. *i* is frequently accented and the second of two *i*s produced (*iidem* l. 9). *m* and *n* are distinguished from *i* and *u*. *r* is simply forked without a shoulder; the round form has a short tail and is used after any bowed letter (*purpresturis* l. 9). The stem of *t* frequently projects above the cross. Initial *u* and medial *v* are not used.

Abbreviations, especially suspensions, are frequent, as usual in documents of this class. The *-is* abbreviation is as usual loosely used as a mark of suspension. The *-rum* sign is used after *a* (*harum* l. 14). The *f*s in the margin probably stand for *fecit*: see p. 148 above.

Punctuation is by full stops only.

Note the vertical and horizontal **ruling.**

Ciues Londonienses„ „Iohannes de Gloucestria et Edmundus de Hemenhale. vicecomites horum Comitatuum Londoniarum et Middlesexie de hoc anno .xx°. pro eisdem Ciuibus. reddunt. compotum de .CCC.li. blancis[1] de firma eorundem Comitatuum de eodem anno, / sicut continetur in Rotulo quinto et in Rotulo .ix°. Regis Ricardi, Que sunt extense ad .CCCxv.li numero. In thesauro nichil. Et heredes Ricardi Louelond' pro custodia domorum apud Westmonasterium; x.li. xij.s. ij.d, sicut continetur in Rotulo secundo Regis Henrici. / et in Rotulo secundo Regis Ricardi. Et eisdem pro custodia de Flete; vij.li. xij.s. j.d, sicut continetur in Rotulo xvj°. Regis. Edwardi filii. Regis. Henrici. et in Rotulo secundo Regis. Ricardi, et sicut allocatum est pro custodia predicta in Rotulis annalibus de tempore Regis Henrici. secundi. Et in / elemosina constituta. Fratribus Hospitalis sancti Iohannis Ierusalem in Anglia pro animabus Regis. Iohannis. et antecessorum Regis et pro anima Roberti de Quency; iiij.li. xj.s. iij.d., sicut continetur in Rotulo tercio Regis. Henrici. Et in libertate sancti Pauli Londonie; vij.li., sicut continetur. / in Rotulo .xxxvij Regis Henrici. Et Capellano celebranti in Capella Regis apud Westmonasterium; lx.s. x.d, sicut continetur in Rotulo .vij°. Regis. Edwardi. filii Regis. Henrici. Et in oleo lampadis Regine; xxx.s. v.d, sicut continetur in Rotulo primo Regis. Henrici. secundi Et in panno empto ad/scaccarium; xl.s. ij.d, sicut continetur in Rotulo. .Et. in

[1] *blancis* interlineated.

liberacione duorum probatorum per .CCClxv. dies, vnius per .iiij^{xx}. xix. dies, vnius, per lxxviij. dies., vnius. per .lxij. dies, vnius per .xlij. dies, vnius per .xxxvj. dies, vnius per .CClviij. dies, et[1] vnius / per .CCxxx. dies; vj.li. viij.s. Et in iusticia .v. probatorum inde facienda; xx.d. Et in vno duello armando; xx.s. Et debent. cclxxj.li. iij.s. v.d. Et
f' respondent. in Item Londonie. / Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .vj.s. ij.d per annum de pluribus minutis firmis sicut continetur in Rotulo .iiij^{to}. Et in Rotulo .xv^{o}. et in Rotulo .xvij^{o}. Regis Henrici vbi particule annotantur. De quibus iidem vicecomites. respondent in Item Londonie.[2] /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .viij.s. v.d de purpresturis arrentatis sicut continetur in Rotulo .iiij^{to}. et in Rotulo .xxxvj^{to}. Regis Henrici. vbi particule annotantur. De quibus iidem vicecomites respondent in Item Londonie. /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .xlv.s. viij.d per annum de remanenti de .x.li. iiij.s de firma minutarum purpresturarum sicut continetur in dicto Rotulo .iiij^{to}. et in Rotulis .lj. xxxvj^{to}. et xxxj^{o}. Regis Henrici. Et respondent in Item Londonie de eadem firma. /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .xxij.d. de firma domorum que fuerunt Iohannis de Oxenade in Colemanstrete sicut continetur in Rotulo .xv^{o}. et in Rotulo .xvij^{o}. Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .iij.s. ix.d. de minutis firmis sicut continetur in Rotulo .iiij^{to}. et in Rotulo .xv^{o}. et in Rotulo .xxij^{o}. Regis. Edwardi filii Regis Henrici vbi particule annotantur. /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .ij.s. de Iohane de Padyngtonia et heredibus suis de redditu vnius placee vacue in parochia sancti Clementis sicut continetur in Rotulis. .xv^{o}. et secundo /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .j.d. per annum de Roberto de Clifford' et heredibus suis pro illo mesnagio iuxta ecclesiam sancti Dunstani West' in suburbio Londoniarum sicut continetur in Rotulis .xv^{o}. et .viij^{o}. /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .ij.s. v.d. per annum de redditibus diuersarum domorum que fuerunt Iudeorum in ciuitate Londoniarum sicut continetur in Rotulis .xv^{o}. et .xj^{o}. Regis Edwardi patris Regis huius vbi particule annotantur /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .xviij.d per annum de Waltero le Barbour et Iohanna vxore eius et heredibus suis de quadam placea in parochia sancti Clementis extra Barram Noui Templi sicut continetur in Rotulis .xv^{o}. et xij^{o} dicti Regis patris. /

[1] *et* interlineated.

[2] The following line of the MS. has been omitted in this transcript—an instance of the common error against which the student is warned in the Introduction, p. xxxix.

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .v.s. xi.d. per annum de remanenti de .xxxij.s .vij.d per annum de minutis redditibus arrentatis in Itinere Heruici de Stauntonia anno .xiiij°. sicut continetur in Rotulo tercio et in Rotulis .xviij°. et xv°. /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .iij.s. iiij.d. per annum de Thoma de Neusom de quadam placea Regis vacua in le Tymberhithe in parochia beate Marie de Somerset in Ciuitate Londoniarum sicut continetur in Rotulo .xij° /

Summa harum .viij. firmarum .xx.s .x.d. De quibus vicecomites / .respondent. in Item Londonie [1] /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites .xl.s. per annum de Valore vnius tenementi Thome Braye Iunioris in Warda de Algate vtlagati pro diuersis falsitatibus et decepcionibus sicut continetur in Rotulo .xvij°. Et .vj.li. x.s. de anno preterito. /

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .x.d. per annum de Willelmo de Langeford' et heredibus suis de quadam placea vacua apud Westsmethefeld' in Comitatu Middlesexie habenda. a .xxiij°. die Decembris anno .xvj°. finiente eidem Willelmo et heredibus suis de Rege / et heredibus Regis. Reddendo inde Regi per annum ad scaccarium sancti Michaelis per manus vicecomitum qui pro tempore fuerint. dictos .x.d pro omni seruicio in perpetuum sicut continetur ibidem. De quibus iidem vicecomites. respondent in Item Londonie. / 20

f' Iidem Ciues et vicecomites debent .xlij.s. xj.d de remanenti de .xxiij.li. xij.s .ij.d. de redditibus qui fuerunt Ade de Strattonia in Londoniis Regi forisfactis sicut continetur in Rotulo .xviij°. et in Rotulo primo et in Rotulo .xix°. Regis. Edwardi filii Regis Henrici. vbi particule annotantur. Et .iiij.li. / .v.s. x.d. de anno preterito. Summa .vj.li. viij.s. ix.d. De quibus vicecomites. respondent. in Item Londonie de .xij.s. xj.d. Et debent .cxv.s. x.d. /

PLATE XXVII

P.R.O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 230, m. 6.

A.D. 1350.

The Chancery-hand at this period shows a somewhat rapid change of style (cf. Plate XXV). This appears principally in the gradual substitution of sharp angles for curves in the formation of the letters, and increases the tendency already observed to triangular spaces. The same change will be noticed in the capital letters.

Individual letters. *a* is still invariably double-bowed, but the bows are

[1] This entry refers to the eight preceding ones, which are bracketed in the MS.

becoming angular: superior *a* is written all in one stroke, the line above being combined with the letter. *c* is not well distinguished from *t*. The upper loop of *d* now comes to a point and the lower bow is angular. A new *D* is used (*Decani* l. 14). *e* is frequently a circle with its diameter no longer vertical but sloping downwards to the right. The bow of *h* begins from half-way up the stem and curves directly downwards and under the line; the head is triangular. *i* usually has a semicircular accent. A new *N* in two strokes is used (*Nolentes* l. 38). *r* is simply forked, without a shoulder; the round form has a slight tail and is only used after *o*. The stem of *t* often comes above the cross. *v* is used initially and *u* medially. *w* is very large, the same as *W*.

Abbreviations. The usual signs are employed, the common form being a more or less curved line. The other signs are more strictly used than hitherto.

Punctuation. The comma, the semicolon, and the full stop are all used.

Ligatures. *st* and *pp* are the only ligatures, but the *t* in *ct* has a rather taller stem than usual.

Corrections. The lower entry is **cancelled** with crossed lines: a missing letter is supplied with a **caret** mark (l. 7).

Special Notes.

l. 1. Notice the old abbreviation for *Christi* (xpi).

l. 5. *commune*, the clerk of the 'commune' or 'commonalty' of the canons.

l. 12. Note that the same contraction (sp) serves for *spiritualia* and *specialiter*.

l. 29. *prefecti*, the *c* is here not very clear.

l. 37. *approbamus*. Notice the combination of the two *p*s and the attraction of the abbreviation to the first of them.

l. 40. *hanaperio*, the Hanaper, the office of the Seal in the Chancery.

l. 41. This entry is cancelled or 'vacated' because it is enrolled in its proper place on the 'Vascon Roll'.

PLATE XXVIII, a

P. R. O. Exchequer Plea Roll, No. 89, m. 6 *d*.

A. D. 1368.

This, though not the most formal style of Exchequer-hand (cf. Plate XXVI), is much neater and more leisurely than the Plea Roll hands of similar date. It shows, however, the same tendencies, though the angularity of the writing is much less pronounced.

Individual letters. *c* is usually distinguishable from *t*, the top not crossing the stem. The short stroke forming the loop of *e* rarely if ever passes the vertical, but the letter is formed in the same way as in other

hands of the period, the tail of the *e* being continued in a circle and thickened to form the loop. The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem and is sharply hooked at the top. *i* has a semicircular accent frequently continued from the end of the word: the second of two *i*s is produced below the line (*scaccarii* l. 36). *r* is simply forked, often down to its foot, and without shoulder; the round form has a tail and is only used after *o*. Long *s* is only medial. *u* is not used initially.

The usual **abbreviations** occur, the special signs, except in the case of final letters, being strictly used.

Punctuation is by full stops only. Both forms of **paragraph marks** are employed.

Special Notes.

l. 2. *Cantebrigia.* The county followed by a paragraph mark. The modern rendering is 'Cambridge to wit'.

l. 3. *attachiati,* were attached.

l. 13. *infran,* a mistake for *infra.*

l. 24. *absque eo quod,* without that, i.e. denying that.

l. 26. *solus oneretur,* be alone charged.

l. 34. *jurata,* a jury. *p s* = *preceptum est.*

l. 35. *ve fa* = *venire faciat.*

l. 37. *etc,* i.e. *bonos et legales homines. visneto,* the venue (neighbourhood).

l. 38. *recognoscendum,* to try.

l. 42. *periculo quod appendet.*

PLATE XXVIII, B

P. R. O. Charter Roll (Chancery), No. 152, m. 1.

A. D. 1371.

This example contains two hands, the first very careful and much ornamented, the second more rapid and of a more ordinary type. Both, however, show the increased angularity already noted, which now shows itself even in the normally round parts of the letters. Curved lines are more and more replaced by portions of polygons. The down-strokes tend to be parallel and to be connected by thin diagonal up-strokes. This is especially noticeable in the first entry, which is also distinguished by some unusually ornamental capitals.

Individual letters. *a* is written in two strokes, the lower bow being produced and used as a tie. *d* has a large and angular head and a narrow waist; the left side of the lower bow is inclined to have a sharp angle. *e* is sometimes made in two parts, sometimes in one stroke by continuing the tail. *i* is accented in the more careful hand, the accent almost forming a loop. *o* is diamond-shaped. *r* has no shoulder; the round form is used after *b* in the first entry, not in the second. The stem of *t*

comes well above the cross. *W* in the second entry is written in one stroke of the pen, having lost all trace of the two *v* s.

The **abbreviations** are as usual. Two forms of *et* are used, a Tironian *et* without a cross, and one resembling an abbreviated *t*. The *-rum* sign is used after *a*.

Punctuation is by full stops and semicolons.

A **margin** is ruled in ink. The **figures** are by a later hand.

De confirmacione pro Burgensibus ville de Bruggewalter. /

Rex eisdem; salutem. Inspeximus quandam cartam confirmacionis domini Edwardi nuper Regis Anglie patris nostri in hec verba Edwardus dei / gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitanie Archiepiscopis Episcopis, Abbatibus Prioribus Comitibus Baronibus Iusticiariis, Vicecomitibus. / Prepositis Ministris et omnibus Balliuis et fidelibus suis; salutem. Inspeximus cartam celebris memorie domini Iohannis quondam Regis Anglie / .2. progenitoris nostri in hec verba. Iohannes dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie Dux Normannie, Aquitanie Comes Andegauie Archiepiscopis Episcopis / Abbatibus Comitibus Baronibus Vicecomitibus Prepositis Ministris Balliuis et omnibus fidelibus suis; salutem. Sciatis nos dedisse et conces/sisse et presenti carta nostra confirmasse dilecto et fideli nostro Willelmo Briwerr' quod Bruggewalter sit liberum burgum et quod ibi sit / liberum mercatum et vna feria singulis annis per octo dies duratura scilicet a die Natiuitatis sancti Iohannis Baptiste in octo dies / cum theloneo paagio pontagio passagio, lastagio stallagio et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus ad liberum burgum et / ad mercatum et feriam pertinentibus. Concessimus eciam predicto Willelmo quod predicti burgenses sui de predicto burgo sint liberi / burgenses et sint quieti de theloneo paagio pontagio passagio lastagio stallagio et habeant omnes libertates et liberas consuetudines / et quietancias que ad nos pertinent per totam terram nostram et per omnes portus terre nostre excepta Ciuitate Londoniarum. Quare / volumus et firmiter precipimus quod predictus Willelmus et heredes sui post ipsum habeant et teneant omnia predicta bene et in pace libere et / quiete integre plenarie et honorifice cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus suis sicut predictum est. Testibus. Willelmo Mariscallo / Comite Penbrochie. R Comite Cestrie Willelmo Comite Saresberie Willelmo de Rupibus Senescallo Andegauie, Garino de Glapian' / Senescallo Normannie Henrico

de Nouant Roberto de Thurnham Data per manus. S. Wellensis Archidiaconi et. I. de Gray Archidiaconi. / Gloucestrie. apud Chinun xxvj. die Iunii, anno regni nostri secundo. Nos autem donacionem concessionem et confirmacionem predictas / ratas habentes et gratas eas pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est Burgensibus ville predicte et eorum heredibus et successoribus / concedimus et confirmamus sicut carta predicta racionabiliter testatur et prout iidem Burgenses et eorum antecessores libertatibus predictis / hactenus racionabiliter vsi sunt et gauisi Hiis testibus venerabilibus patribus. W. Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo tocius Anglie primate. I. / Wyntoniensi Episcopo Cancellario nostro. I. Eliensi Episcopo Thesaurario nostro, Adomaro de Valencia Comite Pembrochie Humfrido de / Bohun Comite Herefordie et Essexie Bartholomeo de Badelesmere Willelmo de Monte acuto Senescallo Hospicii nostri et aliis. / Data per manum nostram apud Westmonasterium quinto die Marcii anno regni nostri vndecimo Nos autem donacionem concessionem / et confirmacionem predictas ratas habentes et gratas eas pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est Burgensibus ville predicte et / eorum heredibus et successoribus concedimus et confirmamus prout carta predicta racionabiliter testatur et prout iidem Burgenses et eorum/antecessores libertatibus predictis hactenus racionabiliter vsi sunt et gauisi Hiis testibus Venerabilibus patribus. W. Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo / tocius Anglie Primate. W. Wyntoniensi. I Eliensi. S Londoniensi Episcopis, Ricardo Arundellie Willelmo de Monte acuto Saresberie Thoma / de Bello Campo Warrewici Comitibus Roberto de Thorp' Cancellario, Ricardo Lescrop' Thesaurario nostris Henrico Lescrop Senescallo / hospicii nostri et aliis Data per manum Regis apud Westmonasterium xvij die Octobris /

pro dimidia marca soluta in hanaperio. /

De Warenna concessa

.1. Rex eisdem salutem Sciatis nos de gracia nostra speciali concessisse et hac carta nostra confirmasse dilecto nobis Simoni Symeon quod / ipse et heredes sui imperpetuum habeant liberam Warennam in omnibus dominicis terris suis in Grymsthorp' Aylesthorp' et Suththorp' / in Comitatu Lincolnie Dumtamen terre ille non sint infra metas foreste nostre Ita quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandum in / eis vel ad aliquid capiendum quod ad Warennam pertineat

sine licencia ipsius Simonis vel heredum suorum super forisfacturam / nostram decem librarum. Quare volumus et firmiter precipimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod predictus Simon et heredes sui imperpetuum / habeant liberam Warennam in omnibus dominicis terris suis predictis Dumtamen terre ille non sint infra metas foreste nostre Ita / quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandum in eis vel ad aliquid capiendum quod ad Warennam pertineat sine licencia ipsius / Simonis vel heredum suorum super forisfacturam nostram decem librarum Hiis testibus Venerabilibus patribus. W. Wyntoniensi S. Londoniensi / et I Bathoniensi et Wellensi Episcopis, Ricardo Arundellie, Humfrido de Bohun Herefordie et Edmundo de Mortuo Mari Marchie / Comitibus Roberto de Thorp' Cancellario Ricardo Lescrop Thesaurario et Willelmo Latymer Camerario nostris Henrico Lescrop Senescallo / hospicii nostri et aliis Data per manum nostram apud Westmonasterium xxvij die Octobris /

per breue de priuato sigillo /

PLATE XXIX, A

P. R. O. Coram Rege Roll (King's Bench), No. 475, m. 63.

A. D. 1379.

This example is both less careful and less advanced in type than the preceding. The tall letters, it is true, have angular heads, and the marks of abbreviation sharp corners, but the angularity of the hand is less clearly expressed in the bodies of the letters. It is clearly visible in the backs of the *e*s and the lower bows of the *d*s, but *o* is not yet diamond-shaped, nor the bows of the *a* absolutely polygonal. It is, however, distinct enough from the rounder and freer writing of the earlier part of the century.

Individual letters. *A* (of the current type) is beginning to look very like *D*, which is only distinguished by the curved line with which it ends. *d* has a narrow head and waist, and an angular body. *e* is usually a circle with the diagonal passing the vertical. *E* in *Et* is made in a similar way. *i* is unaccented. *M* is of the uncial type. *r* has no shoulder; the round form is used after *o* and is hard to distinguish from a 3, but the tail of the 3 runs straight on, that of *r* is written across the horizontal end of the letter with a fresh stroke of the pen (compare *Morle* l. 6 with the 3 abbreviation in *vbicumque* l. 31). The stem of *t* comes well above the cross.

The **abbreviations** are as usual. The *-er* sign is used as a sign of suspension over final *r*.

Ligatures. *Et* may fairly be regarded as a ligature as well as *st*.

There are no marks of **punctuation** except the *ss* **paragraph mark.**

Eboracscira ℙ Isabella Leche de Wakefeld' in propria persona sua optulit se iiij^{to} die versus Willelmum de Cunsburgh' / Thomam del Merssh' Willelmum Hanson' de Scoles Iohannem Benet de Myrfeld Iohannem de Holyn/gege Robertum Shirman de Eboraco Thomam de Aryngclyffe Thomam del Dene Ricardum del / Dene et Iohannem fratrem eius Iohannem Elysson' de Thresfeld' Iohannem de Preston' de / Thresfeld Thomam Milner Thomam Walker Thomam de Midelowe Eliam de Kilnsa / Ricardum de Morle Robertum de Hauenla Willelmum del Kychyn Henricum Clerkman et Agnetem vxorem/eius Willelmum Hunter Willelmum de Brynsall' de Lynton' Walterum de Elys Iohannem de / Stokton' Adam Corour Willelmum de Mallom et Iohannem Brunt de placito transgressionis Et ipsi / non veniunt Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti quod attachiaret eos Et vicecomes retornat quod predictus Willelmus de / Cunsburgh' attachiatus est per Iohannem Roper et Petrum Fox Et predictus Thomas del Merssh' per Ricardum / Wynter et Laurencium Wys Et predictus Willelmus Hanson' per Iohannem Wyly et Petrum Paysot Et / predictus Iohannes Benet per laurencium Forster et Ricardum Hunter Et predictus Iohannes de Holyngege per Ricardum / Frost et Iohannem Raton Et predictus Robertus Shirman' per Ricardum Fox et Robertum Raa Et predictus / Thomas de Aryngclyffe per laurencium Wys et Petrum Roke Et predictus Thomas del Dene per / Ricardum Hunter et Philippum de Clyff' Et predictus Ricardus del Dene per Iohannem West et Iacobum / West Et predictus Iohannes frater eius per laurencium Wys et Matheum last' Et predictus Iohannes Elys/son per Petrum Frost et Iohannem North' Et predictus Iohannes de Preston' per Ricardum Wynter et / laurencium Wys Et predictus Thomas Milner per laurencium Pygot et Ricardum Wast Et predictus Tho-/mas Walker per Stephanum Wastour et Iohannem Palpot Et predictus Thomas de Midelowe per / laurencium Wys et Petrum Fox Et predictus Elias de Kylnsa per Petrum Frost et Willelmum West / Et predictus Ricardus

Morle per Iacobum Palmer et laurencium Wys Et predictus Robertus de Hauenla / per Iohannem Hunter et laurencium Frost Et predictus Willelmus del Kychyn per Alexandrum Pyper et laurencium / Potter Et predicti Henricus Cherkman et Agnes vxor eius per Ricardum frost et Ricardum Hunter / Et predictus Willelmus Hunter per laurencium Wys et Iacobum de Rage Et predictus Willelmus de / Brynsall' per Iohannem Pyper et Petrum Fox Et predictus Walterus de Elys per Philippum Frost / et Matheum Best Et predictus Iohannes de Stokton' per Iacobum Hunter et laurencium West / Et predictus Adam Corour per Matheum Frost et laurencium Wys Et predictus Willelmus de Mallom / per laurencium Potter et Iohannem Raygat Et predictus Iohannes Brunt per
miseri-cordia Matheum Frost et / laurencium Wys Ideo ipsi in misericordia Et preceptum est vicecomiti quod distringat eos per omnes terras et cetera / Et quod de exitibus et cetera Et quod habeat corpora eorum coram domino Rege in Octabis /
S' sancti Hillarii vbicumque et cetera /

Eboracsira ℙ Iohannes Northyby de Moreton' per attornatum suum optulit se iiij^to die versus Iohannem Randolf / de Grymston' de placito transgressionis Et ipse non venit Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti quod atta/chiaret eum et cetera Et vicecomes retornat quod attachiatus est per Iohannem Wynter
miseri-cordia. et Iohannem Forster / Ideo ipsi in misericordia et cetera Et preceptum est vicecomiti quod distringat eum per omnes terras et cetera Et quod / de exitibus et cetera Et quod habeat corpus eius coram domino Rege a die
S' sancti Hillarii / in xv dies vbicumque et cetera
ℙ Sadyngton' lxiij. Sadyngton'

PLATE XXIX, B

P. R. O. Miscellaneous Inquisitions (Chancery), File 249, No. 6.

A. D. 1391.

This example of a country hand shows the same characteristics as the Exchequer-hand in Plate XXXII, but the triangular shape of the spaces is much more marked, the heads of the tall letters having triangular loops instead of the simple hook. The same tendency appears in the tails of the *q* s.

Individual letters. Most of the remarks on Plate XXXII apply here

also. The bow of *b* is usually closed. Another *e* is found (*Henrisson* l. 3), the tail of which comes below the line. The round *r* has a tail below the line. Initial *s* is sometimes long.

Punctuation. A semicolon is used at the end of line 3 to mark the principal pause. Note the meaningless full stops. There is a **caret** mark (l. 6).

℣ Inquisicio ex officio capta. in. Castro Eboraci. quarto. die. Octobris. anno. regni regis Ricardi secundi. post conquestum. Anglie quintodecimo. coram Iacobo / de Pykeryng' Chiualer Escaetore. dicti. domini. Regis in Comitatu Eboraci per sacramentum. Edmundi. de Twenge. Roberti Chapman Iohannis Catflat Iohannis Clerc / Ricardi Nesand. Willelmi. Henrisson'. Roberti Henrysson' Thome Patere Iohannis Amy Thome. Yonge. Iohannis. de Langtonia et. Nicholai. Fraunkeleyn ; / Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod Adam. Somondour. de Osbaldewyk qui bastardus fuit obiit die. Martis. in secunda. septimana quadragesime / vltimo preterito. sine. herede. de corpore. suo. legitime procreato. et. quod tenuit eodem. die. quo. obiit in dominico suo. vt. de feodo. duo. cotagia. / extra. le Monkebarre. in suburbio Ciuitatis Eboraci et vnum. cotagium. in. Walmegate infra Ciuitatem. predictam de. domino Rege in capite / vt parcellam Ciuitatis predicte. et. prout tota. illa Ciuitas. tenetur: quequidem. cotagia. accidunt domino. Regi. per eschaetam. Et quod valent per annum / in omnibus exitibus xiij.s. iiij.d. In cuius rei. testimonium huic. Inquisicioni predicti. Iuratores sigilla. sua apposuerunt Data. die loco et anno supradictis /

PLATE XXX, A

P. R. O. Ancient Deeds, A. 5267.

A. D. 1381.

This licence for alienation (formerly one of the title deeds of Wix Priory), should be compared with Plate XXVIII B, for the purpose of showing the difference between the engrossing hand and the ordinary enrolment hand of the same department. The top line has ornamented and exaggerated stems which we should not find in an ordinary writ or commission, even the contraction mark of *gracia* being expanded into a kind of leaf ornament. The *minims* of the *m* s and *u* s are upright and have feet, and the probable bulk of the document has been carefully estimated by means of a rough draft and the parchment ruled accordingly. The seal is attached by silk strings. Notice, however, the rough and angular handwriting and the complete failure to distinguish between *n* and *u*.

Individual letters. Notice the angle in the lower bow of *d*. The circular *e* is not used. *i* is usually accented. *o* is nearly diamond-shaped. The top of *p* is slightly open. *r* has no shoulder, and the round form no tail below the line; it is used after other bowed letters besides *o* (*proprio* l. 4). Short *s* is not used initially except as a capital.

The **abbreviations** are rather more strictly used than usual. Superior *a* is open-topped with a line over. The sign *-rum* is used after *a*.

Ligatures. *Et* and *st* are both ligatures.

There is little **punctuation** except by capitals. . . , however, are used as a stop, not to represent a name unexpressed. No **hyphen** is used, but flourishes fill up some gaps. The counter-signature at the right-hand bottom corner is that of the clerk responsible for issuing the letters.

Ricardus dei gracia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie . . Omnibus ad quos presentes littere peruenerint / salutem Sciatis quod cum dominus Edwardus nuper Rex Anglie Auus noster per litteras suas patentes concessisset et licen/ciam dedisset pro se et heredibus suis quantum in ipso fuit tunc Priorisse et Monialibus de Wykes quod ipse / decem libratas terrarum tenementorum et reddituum per annum tam de feodo suo proprio quam alieno exceptis terris et tenementis que / de ipso Auo nostro tenebantur in capite adquirere possent et tenere sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum . . Statuto de terris et tenementis / ad manum mortuam non ponendis edito non obstante . . prout in eisdem litteris plenius continetur Nos volentes dictam concessi/onem prefati Aui nostri effectui debito mancipari . . concessimus et licenciam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est Henrico / Strete persone ecclesie de Magna Okele Roberto de Wolferstonia Et Iohanni Conn quod ipsi quinque marcatas Annui redditus percipiendas / de vno mesnagio trescentis acris terre octo acris prati viginti acris pasture et decem acris bosci cum pertinentiis in Magna Okele et / Wykes que de nobis non tenentur sicut per inquisicionem inde per Robertum de Goldyngtonia Escaetorem nostrum in Comitatu Essexie de man/dato nostro captam et in Cancellaria nostra retornatam est compertum dare possint et assignare dilectis nobis in christo nunc Priorisse et / Monialibus domus predicte habendas et percipiendas sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum in valorem Centum solidorum per annum in partem / satisfaccionis decem libratarum terrarum tenementorum et reddituum predictorum Et eisdem Priorisse et Monialibus quod ipse redditum predictum a prefatis / Henrico Roberto et Iohanne recipere et de dictis mesnagio terra prato pastura et bosco percipere possint et habere sibi et successoribus suis predictis /

imperpetuum sicut predictum est tenore presencium similiter licenciam dedimus specialem; statuto predicto non obstante Nolentes quod predicti / Henricus Robertus et Iohannes vel heredes sui aut prefate Priorissa et Moniales vel earum successores racione statuti predicti per nos vel / heredes nostros Iusticiarios Escaetores Vicecomites aut alios Balliuos seu Ministros nostros quoscumque occasionentur molestentur in / aliquo seu grauentur. Saluis tamen Capitalibus dominis feodi illius seruiciis de mesnagio terra prato pastura et bosco predictis / debitis et consuetis In cuius rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes Teste me ipso apud Westmonaste/rium sextodecimo die Nouembris anno regni nostri quinto Muskham /

PLATE XXX, B

P. R. O. Warrants for the Great Seal (Chancery), Series I, File 1539, No. 15.
A. D. 1392.

This is an example (after a considerable interval) of a really cursive hand, as may be seen by examining the connexions between the letters, which are run together wherever possible. In spite of this, there is a considerable angularity in the forms of the letters such as *c*, *e*, and *o*, and in the loops of the taller letters when these are used as ties, as well as in the loops of the *d*s. The pen is held slightly sloped.

Individual letters. Headless *a* reappears; it must not be supposed that it has been out of use, but it has dropped out of the usual official hands. *b* has an open bow, and is only distinguished from *v* by its uprightness. *d* has a marked angle in the lower bow. The formation of *e* is very rapid, two strokes of the pen being used; the method is seen in *materes* (l. 2), where the pen for once has not left the parchment. The lower bow of *g* is open. That of *h* springs from the base of the stem and is curved under the line. *i*, *m*, *n*, *t*, and *u* are all made in the same way, *i* being marked by a straggling accent—which now begins to give place to a dot (*prochein* l. 1)—and *t* by its cross. *I* has a closed loop below the line. *M* is of the uncial type, not very large. *r* is a simple fork, hardly differing from an enlarged *i*; the round form (used after *o*) has no tail. Long *s* is only medial. Medial *v* occurs once (*avenir* l. 1), but in a case where it may fairly be regarded as initial, the preposition being merely written on. The method of writing *y* is well shown in *luy* (l. 2). *z* is of the long type.

The **abbreviations** are few and normal in type, as usual written on to the words to which they belong.

Ligatures. Besides *st* there is a complicated ligature in the signature *J. Prophete*, the *J*, the *pro* sign, and the *p* being combined. *Et* is also written as a ligature.

The **punctuation** of the order is by commas only. Full stops are used as usual with numerals: and the warrant clause and signature are each followed by a special sign, like a colon and dash.

Soit fet un brief a Thomas Mydlington' de Southampton' qil soit deuant le Conseil, le Jeody prochein avenir / a oyt iours, pur respondre sur certaines materes qe luy serront declarez alors. depart le Roy Et ce sur peine de / quarante liures /

.Le vij. iour de May lan etcetera. xv^{me}. le Conseil estoit / assentuz qe le dit brief soit fet:—/

J Prophete:—/

PLATE XXX, C

P. R. O. Warrants for the Great Seal (Chancery), Series I, File 1394, No. 65. [A. D. 1399.]

This example contains three different hands. The original petition, written by a professional scribe in a somewhat formal hand: the official *memorandum* of delivery into the Chancery: and the letter of commendation of Roger Walden, Archbishop of Canterbury, written in a cursive hand by himself or by a secretary. The petition was granted by Richard II at the moment of his departure for Ireland, and the grant is attested by the archbishop's letter. The warrant is thus described as 'By the King, *nunciante* the archbishop of Canterbury'. The petition is written in the angular vertical hand which we shall come to recognize as characteristic of the 15th century, and on which modern 'Gothic' type is based. The *memorandum* is somewhat in the same style, only less advanced in type and recalling the irregularity of the later 14th century. The letter is in a cursive hand much less careful than that of the last example, and proportionately valuable as showing the method by which the letters are formed.

Individual letters. Headless *a* is found in all three hands, and excludes the other type in the petition, except as a capital. The cursive form of headed *a* is well shown in the letter (*A Chanceller* l. 10): this is a characteristic fifteenth-century type (compare also *nunciante* l. 1). Superior *a* is of the usual type with the horizontal stroke over it. *d* in the letter is rounded, without the angle in the lower bow which appears in the other hands. *e*, except in the petition, is inverted; in that, however, it is properly formed, the tail tending to come below the line (as in XXX A). *h* has two forms: it is either formed in two pieces, the stem having a large foot and the bow beginning from some way up the stem, or the bow springs straight from the foot of the stem so that the pen never leaves the parchment. *i* is beginning to have a dot in place of the accent, but the usage is not uniform. The second of two *i*s is produced (*Maii* l. 1). *o* is diamond-shaped in the two formal hands, but in the letter is written much as it is now. *r* is usually without any shoulder

except when final; the round form is used after *o* and once (*Pembrochiam* l. 1) after *b*. Long *s* is only used initially in the abbreviation *Seignur*. The stem of *t* in the two formal hands usually comes above the cross. *u* is not used initially nor *v* medially. *z* is long.

The **abbreviations** are as usual written on to the words to which they belong. The very conventional form of superior *r* should be observed.

The principal **ligatures** are *st* and *pp*.

The **punctuation** of the petition is by full stops and capitals. That of the letter is by diagonal lines, long lines being used instead of a fresh line in the writing.

ista billa concessa fuit per dominum Regem apud Pembrochiam xxiij die Maij et tradita Cancellario Anglie ad execucionem inde faciendam nunciante Rogero Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi / Et idem dominus Rex perdonauit finem ad instanciam eiusdem Archiepiscopi /

A nostre tresexcellent tressoueraigne trespuissant et tres-gracious seignur notre seignur le Roi Supplient humblement voz pouerez Chapelleines et Oratours les Priour et Couent de Shelford' en la Countee de Notyngham qe come le / noble et gracious Roi Edward vostre [Bes]aiell que dieu assoille par ses lettres patentes graunta licence al Priour adonques esteant et Couent auantdit qils purroient approprier la moitee del eglise de Westburgh / en le Countee de lincoln et mesme la moitee issint appropriez en propre oeps tenir la quele moitee del eglise auantdite fuist et est del patronage des ditz Priour et Couent la quele licence ne / fuist ne unqore nest execut. Qe plese a vostre treshaute Magestee de vostre grace especiale ratifier et confermer les lettres et graunt de licence de vostre Besaiell auantditz. Et outre de vostre pluis habundant / grace graunter a les Priour et Couent auantditz qils la moitee del eglise auantdit approprier et mesme la moitee issint appropriez en propre oeps tenir purrent. a eux et a lour successours / perpetuelement sanz empeschement de vous ou de voz heirs—Iustices Eschetours Viscontz Baillifs ou autres Officers ou Ministres queconqes de vous ou de voz heirs Ascunes / ordeignances ou estatutz a contrarie faitz nientcontresteantz et ces sanz fin ent paier a vostre oeps. pur dieu et en oeure de charitee. / A Chancellier dengleterre. / par R Ercheuesque de Cantorbery / Treshonure piere vous plese estre gracious seignur a la materre compris en ceste bille / la quele le Roi graunta et la vous bailla [1] a son depart de Penbrok, et en outre auer la besoigne / de Priour de Kermerdyn' pur recomande et luy monstrer bone seignurie come ie maffie /

[1] *graunta et la vous bailla* interlineated.

PLATE XXXI

P. R. O. Close Roll (Chancery), No. 230, m. 2.

A. D. 1389.

In general character this specimen does not differ materially from Plate XXVIII B, but the letters are more thoroughly angular in detail and rather less straggling.

Individual letters. The principal change is in the *e*s of the upper part of the facsimile, which are now sometimes completely inverted (*comes* l. 11). *g* has become hour-glass-shaped, with a very narrow waist. *o* is usually diamond-shaped. The round *r* has a tail in the lower of the two hands only. Long *s* is used both initially and medially.

Abbreviations are as usual: the *-rum* sign is used after *a*. *pre-* is occasionally written with the plain sign of contraction as in book-hand (*presentibus* l. 47).

Et is written as a **ligature,** but *st* can hardly be so regarded in this hand.

Special Notes.

l. 12. *per legem Anglie* = by the Curtesy of England.

l. 14. *Solidatis* = shillingsworth.

l. 17. *Cantarie* = the Chantry.

l. 18. *bruere* = heath.

l. 22. *statum continuavit,* retained his estate as joint-tenant (for life).

l. 31. *honore,* the honour; a group of manors held formerly of the same lordship and since escheated to the Crown.

l. 40. *Coketto,* the cocket or seal placed on bales of wool, &c., licensed to be exported on payment of custom.

l. 41. *annuente.* Note the possibility of confusion when many *n*'s and *u*'s occur consecutively.

l. 43. *passagium,* the crossing of a river or sea. *pellium lanutarum,* wool-fells.

l. 49. *per billam Thesaurarii,* by the Treasurer's warrant (the authority for the issue of the letters).

l. 53. *ville de Sancto Botulpho* = Boston, Co. Lincs.

PLATE XXXII

P. R. O. Foreign Roll (Exch. L. T. R.), No. 25, m. C.

A. D. 1392.

A comparison of this example with others of the same class (Plates XVI, XXVI, &c.) shows a marked deterioration in the handwriting. It is rough and irregular, and the letters are no longer rounded but angular and crooked. Letters are also joined together in a confusing way (e.g. *ci* in *aceciam* l. 5).

Individual letters. The upper loop of *a* is often much flattened, the two loops being made in one stroke, instead of by writing the upper loop with the stem and making the lower separately. The bow of *b* is often open, so that it resembles *v*. *d* has a flat head and a thick waist. *e* is inverted in many cases. *i* has occasionally a semicircular accent, and the second of two *i*s is produced. *r* has a thick and a thin branch, deeply forked, and without a shoulder: the round form, used after *o*, is reduced to a mere crook (*moraturos* l. 4). Long *s* is only medial. The stem of *t* usually, but not always, comes above the cross. *u* is only medial.

The **abbreviations** are as usual, a more or less curved line being the common sign.

Punctuation is generally by full stops.

The roll is **ruled** vertically and horizontally in ink.

Wyndesore

Compotus Galfridi Chauucer quem Rex per litteras suas patentes datas .xij°. die Iulii anno .xiiij°. irrotulatas in Originalibus de eodem anno; assignauit Clericum ad Capellam / Regis collegialem sancti Georgii infra Castrum Regis de Wyndesore que minatur ruine et in punctu ad terram cadendi existit nisi cicius facta et emendata fuerit sufficienter fieri faciendam / et ad lathamos Carpentarios et alios operarios et laboratores pro operibus eiusdem Capelle necessarios vbicumque infra libertates vel extra feodo ecclesie dumtaxat excepto inueniri poterunt / per se et deputatos suos eligendos et capiendos et eos super operibus predictis ponendos ibidem ad vadia Regis quamdiu indiguerit moraturos et ad petras maeremium, vitrum, plumbum et omnia alia / pro operacionibus predictis necessaria aceciam cariagium pro premissis ad Castrum predictum ad locum vbi Capella sic facta fuerit ducendis capienda pro denariis Regis racionabiliter soluendis tam pro premissis/ quam pro cariagio predicto per superuisum et testimonium Contrarotulatoris operacionum Regis palacii sui Westmonasterii videlicet tam de huiusmodi vadiis misis et expensis per ipsum Galfridum factis super operibus predictis / quam de stauro mortuo ibidem remanente a predicto .xij°. die Iulii anno .xiiij°. vsque .viij^{m}. diem Iulii anno .xv°. per visum et testimonium Willelmi Hannay Contrarotulatoris dictarum operacionum Regis / ibidem quo die Rex per litteras suas patentes assignauit Iohannem Gedney Clericum operacionum Regis ad Capellam Regis supradictam sufficienter fieri faciendam per breue Regis de magno sigillo / datum eodem .viij°. die Iulii anno .xv°. per quod breue Rex

precepit dicto Galfrido quod se de premissis faciendis seu explendis nullatenus intromittat a quo die idem Iohannes est inde / computaturus /

Expensa. Idem computat in .Cj. doliatis petre de Stapultonia et .CC carectatis petre de Reygate emptis pro factura et emendacione dicte Capelle Regis sancti Georgii infra dictum castrum de Wyndesore / nondum expenditis vnacum frettagio batellagio et cariagio dicte petre de diuersis locis vbi empte fuerunt et prouise vsque Castrum predictum necnon vadiis trium laborariorum operancium circa / oneracionem et exoneracionem diuersarum carectarum cum petra petra [*sic*] ac posicione eiusdem infra magnam aulam Castri predicti per .xvj. dies. ac vadiis Iohannis Paule prouisoris ibidem equitantis / et laborantis circa dictas empcionem et prouisionem. petre predicte ac cariagio eiusdem a primo die Augusti anno .xiiij°. vsque .viij. diem Iulii anno .xv°. per .CCCxlj. dies vltimo die / computato et non primo capientis per diem .iiij.d infra dictum tempus huius Compoti—C.li. xvij.s. iiij.d. per predictum breue Regis annotatum supra in titulo huius compoti. sicut continetur in / quodam Rotulo ipsius Galfridi et eciam in quodam Rotulo predicti Contrarotulatoris de particulis hic in thesauro liberatis De qua quidem petra idem Galfridus debet respondere. Et respondet infra /

Summa expense—C.li. xvij.s. iiij.d. Que allocantur eidem Galfrido. in compoto suo supra /

Petra de Stapultonia et Reygate Idem reddit compotum de .Cj. doliatis petre de Stapultonia et .CC. carectatis petre de Reygate receptis de empcione sicut supra continetur—Quam quidem petram liberauit Iohanni Gedney Clerico / operacionum Regis ibidem per predictum breue Regis datum .viij°. die Iulii anno .xv°. et indenturam ipsius Iohannis de recepta, sicut continetur in dictis rotulo et contrarotulo de particulis De qua quidem petra / idem Iohannes debet respondere. Et respondet infra. /

Iohannes Gedney Clericus operacionum Regis de Wyndesore de .Cj. doliatis petre de Stapultonia. et .CC. carectatis petre de Reygate receptis de Galfrido Chauucer nuper Clerico earundem / operacionum Regis ibidem per indenturam sicut supra continetur /

Cantebrigia Compotus Magistri Thome Hetersete custodis aule scolarium Regis Cantebrigie per breue Regis

patens datum .xxxvj^to^. die Maii anno viij°. irrotulatum in Originalibus / de eodem anno videlicet de receptis vadiis et robis ipsius Custodis ac vadiis eorundem scolarium necnon de expensis per ipsum factis circa reparacionem quarundam domorum. ibidem. a xxx°. die / septembris anno xiiij°. ante quem diem idem Thomas inde computauit Rotulo xij°. Rotulo compotorum .F.[1] vsque x^m^ diem Ianuarii. proximo sequentem per breue Regis de magno sigillo datum. iiij^to^. die Nouembris. / anno xv° Thesaurario Baronibus. huius scaccarii directum. quod est inter Communia de termino Michaelis eodem anno per quod breue Rex mandauit eisdem Thesaurario. et Baronibus. quod cum prefato Thoma pro tempore / quo fuit Custos Regis ibidem. et non dum computauit tam de dictis vadiis suis et scolarium predictorum quam de robis ac aliis expensis. et reparacionibus domorum quibuscumque per ipsum / Thomam in ea parte factis coram eisdem Thesaurario. et Baronibus ad scaccarium predictum computent videlicet de huiusmodi receptis vadiis robis et expensis vt infra. A quo quidem x°. die Ianuarii / anno xiiij°. Radulphus de Selby custos aule predicte est inde computaturus /

Recepta Idem reddit compotum de xxxj.li. v.s. vj.d per ipsum receptis super vadiis suis et scolarium predictorum pro sustentacione. sua de Burgensibus ville de Scardeburgh' de firma eiusdem ville et Manerii / de Walesgraue de termino Michaelis anno xiiij°. sicut continetur in Magno Rotulo de anno xiiij° in Cant' et Hunt' et eciam in quodam rotulo de particulis hic in thesauro liberato. Et / de lxxv.s. iiij.d per ipsum similiter. receptis de Abbate. de Waltham super consimili sustentacione pro eodem termino sicut continetur ibidem. Et de x.li. receptis de Thoma Sakeuill' vicecomite Bed'. / et Buk' super consimili sustentacione pro eodem termino sicut continetur ibidem Et de xvj.li. xiij.s. iiij.d. receptis. de Abbate de Sautre de quadam pensione quam Abbas / de bona requie. alienigena. reddere tenebatur pro ecclesiis suis[2] de Fulborne et Hemyngham super consimili sustentacione pro eodem. termino sicut continetur ibidem. Et de. liij.s. iiij d. / receptis de Roberto Parys vicecomite Cant' et Hunt' de exitibus eorundem Comitatuum pro roba ipsius Custodis yemali predicto anno. xiiij°. sicut continetur ibidem. /

Summa Recepte—liiij.li. vij.s. vj.d /

[1] *F.* interlineated. [2] *suis* interlineated.

Idem compotat in vadiis suis et xxxij. scolarium in aula predicta existencium a predicto xxx°. die septembris anno xiiij°. vsque predictum. x^m^. diem Ianuarii. / proximo sequentem scilicet per cij dies vltimo die computato et non primo —xxviij.li xviij.s. videlicet dicto Custodi .iiij.d. et cuilibet dictorum scolarium .ij.d per diem per predicta duo / breuia Regis annotata supra in titulo huius compoti sicut continetur. in dicto rotulo de particulis et sicut huiusmodi vadia allocantur. in compoto ipsius Custodis predicto / Rotulo xij°. Rotulo compotorum et in aliis compotis precedentibus Et in vna roba ipsius Custodis yemali pro festo Natalis domini. dicto anno xiiij° accidente infra tempus predictum / —.liij.s .iiij.d per predicta duo breuia Regis sicut continetur ibidem. Et in maerenio [*sic*] calcis [*sic*] clauis seruris et aliis minutis necessariis emptis et expenditis. super reparacione domorum / ad dictam aulam pertinencium vna cum vadiis carpentariorum tegulatorum et aliorum operariorum. reparancium et emendancium dictos domos per diuersas vices infra dictum tempus / huius compoti—.xix.s. j.d. per predictum breue. Regis datum. quarto die Nouembris anno xv°. annotatum supra in titulo huius compoti sicut continetur ibidem /

Summa expense.—xxxij.li. x.s. v.d. Et debet xxj.li. xvij.s j.d. Idem reddit compotum de eodem debito /

PLATE XXXIII

P. R. O. Ministers' Accounts, Bundle 1046, No. 12, m. 1.

A. D. 1403.

The handwriting of this specimen is straggling and irregular. It is a rather bad country hand somewhat cursive in character, but not by any means absolutely current, as will be seen by comparison with Plate XXX c. The letters are carelessly formed and very angular, and the writing is altogether irregular.

Individual letters. Both kinds of *a* are used, the headless type being the less common: *A* has a large flourish for the upper loop. *C* is made of two loops, and is hardly distinguishable from *S* when the tail of the latter is brought back through the head (*Cartere* l. 23). *d* is rounded in the smaller writing; in the heading it retains its triangular head and the sharp angle in the lower bow. Inverted *e* is almost the same as *d* (*de* l. 19), but the other kind with the tail below the line is very freely used. *g* is merely a cross joined at top and bottom (*curtelagii* l. 33, *augmentacione* l. 37). The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem. *i* is rarely accented, except to avoid confusion with *m* and *n*. *o* is made as in modern writing, the right-hand side being thickened by making

a narrow loop. *q* is almost indistinguishable from *I.* *r* is, as usual, a simple fork, without a shoulder except at the end of a word; the round form, used after *o* and sometimes *p*, is a mere crook. Long *s* is only medial; short *s* is very carelessly formed and easily confused with *e*. The capital *S* in *Summa* should be noticed. The cross of *t* is written on, making it fairly distinct from *c*. Medial *v* begins to occur (*Stevin* l. 10, *Havteuile* l. 39). *y* is written without the usual dot.

Abbreviations are carelessly made and usually written on to the words to which they belong. Note the persistence of *xp* in *christine* (l. 19).

Ligatures. *ff*, *ss*, and *st* are all written as ligatures, the heads of the letters being brought together, so that the combination resembles a pair of compasses. *ke* is also found as a ligature (*Wrikes* l. 22).

Punctuation is entirely by capital letters.

MANERIUM DE BROMHAM /

Compotus Iohannis Free prepositi ibidem A Festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli Anno Regni / Regis Henrici iiij^{ti} tercio vsque idem festum proximum sequens Anno eiusdem Regis quarto. /

Redditus. Assisus

Idem respondet de vij.li ix s x d obolo quadrante receptis de Redditu assiso ad terminum Natalis domini cum ij s de horsgabulo / et cum iiij d obolo quadrante de Chirchset iij Cotagiorum [*sic*] arancium de certo et cum xij d de incremento redditus Hugonis Cray Et de / vij li ix s xj d receptis de redditu assiso ad terminum Natalis beati Iohannis Baptiste cum *ij s* de horsgabulo et cum xij d de incremento / redditus Hugonis Cray Et de iiij d receptis de Hugone Fossadams pro quodam fossato iuxta Borslegh' Et de ij s vj d de Iohanne / Wadell' Et de v d receptis de Iohanne Smyth' ad dictos terminos pro j mesnagio et j fabrica in Haukstret Et de xij d de / Iohanne Thankard' pro iij acris terre sibi dimissis in iij Campis Et de ij s receptis de Iohanne Harbard' pro iij partibus tenementi nuper / Ricardi Stevin ad terminum predictum prouenientibus de escaeta ratione Natiui sanguinis Et de ij s receptis de Iohanne Wilde receptis de / incremento redditus j mesnagii et j virgate terre cum pertinentiis nuper Thome Daies pro dimidio anno quod quidem modo reddit incrementum redditus / reddendo in anno integro iiij s tenendum sibi et vxori sue[1] ad terminum vite secundum consuetudinem Manerii reddendo inde Chircheset / vt solebat et omnia alia opera vocata Cuntrewerk et nulla

[1] *sue* altered from *suo*.

alia Et de x s receptis de Iohanne Tournour de / incremento redditus j mesnagii et j virgate terre cum pertinentiis nuper Iohannis Harbard' vltra *vs* de antiquo redditu tenendum sibi / et vxori sue ad terminum vite secundum consuetudinem Manerii faciendo omnia alia opera[1] in rotulo Curie expressata /

Summa xv li xviij s obolus quadrans /

Firme

Et de viij s receptis de firma Calmundis sic dimisse ad firmam vltra antiquum redditum Et de iiij d receptis de j acra terre in / Westfeld' Et de x s receptis de firma molendini aquatici ibidem Et de x s receptis de alio molendino aquatico Et de viij s receptis de / firma terre quondam christine Canyngis Et de ix s de Simone Stokwell' pro tenemento nuper Willelmi Persan' Et de vj d / de Matilda Bisshop' pro j acra prati Et de vij d receptis de Nicholao Yuerdon' pro j acra terre sibi dimissa Et de vj s viij d receptis de / Thoma Peris pro tenemento Haukis Et de v s receptis de Iohanne Melner pro tenemento Blaks Et de v s receptis de Iohanne Scot / pro tenemento Nicholai Feld' Et de viij s receptis de Simone Thomes pro tenemento Willelmi Wrikes Et de iiij d receptis [de] Waltero / Feld' pro j acra terre nuper Iohannis Cartere Et de xviij d receptis de Matilda Bisshop' pro tenemento nuper Iohannis Dipres / Et de xij d receptis de Henrico Gaunt Et de xij d receptis de Iohanne Denys pro ij acris terre sibi dimissis in Westfeld' / Et de ij s receptis de Iohanne Hope pro iiij acris terre dominice in iij Campis Et de xviij d de Matilda Bisshop' / pro Diprescroft Et de iiij s vj d receptis de ix acris terre dominice in le Houke sic dimisse tenentibus Et de xij d receptis de / Chabbe pro ij acris terre dominice in Westfeld' Et de xij d receptis de Iohanne Frere pro j pecia terre in le Cley / Et de xviij d receptis de Iohanne Thankard' pro terris et tenementis Nicholai Yuerdon' Et de v s receptis de Relicta Roberti / atte Slade Et de xviij d receptis de Waltero atte Feld' pro Curtulagio et crofto de Yuerdon' Et de j d de / Iohanne Bisshop' pro j placea terre iuxta domum suum et continet ij acras terre et iacet in iiij Campis Et de iij s / receptis de Iohanne Scot pro vj acris terre dominice in iij Campis Et de vj d receptis de Waltero Feld' Et de Iohanne / Bedell' nihil quia in manu domini Et de xij d receptis de Iohanne Melward' pro ij acris terre in Estfeld' Et de xij d

[1] *opera* interlineated.

receptis de / Adam Seman pro medietate j curtelagii Agnetis Caleis cum j domo nouiter leuata et cum j acra terre in Middilfeld' Et de / xij d receptis de Thoma Souter pro ij acris terre in Westfeld' Et de iiij d receptis de Waltero Trois pro ij sulionibus terre nuper / Iohannis Cartere Et de vj d receptis de incremento redditus Iohannis Nichol pro j acra prati et j acra terre vocata Reuesacr' in augmentacione / tenementi sui Et de ij d receptis de Iohanne filio Iohannis Herbard' de incremento redditus pro j crofto vocato Gauilcroft et est de / tenemento Walteri Holmys in augmentatione tenementi sui Et de xij d receptis de Iohanne Mantill' pro ij acris terre in Estfeld' Et de / vj d receptis de Simone Thomes pro j acra terre in Pilorefeld' et j acra prati vocata Pondfold' Et de xij d receptis de Iohanne / Havteuile pro j acra terre et j pecia in le Cley / Summa Ciij s /

Minuti redditus

Et de xv s ij d receptis de Cxij Gallis et Gallinis prouenientibus de Chircheset vnde *xxviij* Galline precium cuiuslibet galli *j d obolus* / galline *ij d* Et de viij d receptis de Pannagio Porcorum / Summa xv s x d /

[*Portion of a further entry not here transcribed.*]

PLATE XXXIV

P. R. O. Charter Roll (Chancery), No. 182, m. 5.

A. D. 1413.

[Printed from Charter Roll of Edward III, *Calendar of Charter Rolls*, vol. IV, p. 345.]

This Enrolment should be compared with Plate XXXI. The writing is as angular as ever, but has now become much more regular, all the down-strokes being as nearly as possible vertical. It is still, however, a little rough, and has not reached the pitch of neatness which was attained in the following reign. The present example is interesting as showing how the Chancery clerks, who usually wrote in Latin or French, dealt with Anglo-Saxon or the jargon which passed as such. *Thorn* (þ) is represented by a *y*, and the same letter has to serve for the Saxon *Wen* (ƿ). The copying is obviously quite unintelligent, and we cannot suppose that the clerks understood the language which they wrote or they would not have converted the *y* which stands for *Thorn* and *Wen* into *i*. The bilingual charters themselves may probably be regarded as genuine, though unusual in form and resembling the writ of Court printed in Earle's *Land Charters*, pp. 232, 233. A version of the Charter of Henry II is printed in the same work (Ibid., pp. 346–7), and that of Henry I here (above Plate I c).

Individual letters. *a*, being in a formal hand, is always headed. *A* is of the same type. *b* retains a loop, which is always triangular. *B* is becoming round and formless, though not yet very easy to confuse with other capitals. *e* is usually of the old type, but the inverted form occurs from time to time (*conquestum* l. 3, *archiepiscopis* l. 6). *g* consists of the usual diamond-shaped parts. The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem, and the tail is brought back below the line to the right. *H* has the tail simply brought under the line to the left. *i* is most often left plain, but sometimes accented and sometimes dotted: the second of two *i*s is produced (*proprii* l. 12). *I* has two forms, the head having sometimes a simple hook, sometimes a notch. It is here employed to represent the A.-S. *and*. *k* is freely used for the A.-S. *c*. *l*, like *b*, has often a triangular loop. Long *s* is occasionally initial. *y* has ceased to be dotted and is used as an equivalent for *Thorn* and *Wen*, which are indistinguishable from each other, and only distinguished from *y* by the straightness of their tails.

The **abbreviations** in the Latin offer no special difficulty. In the Anglo-Saxon the equation of Tironian *et* with *I* has been noticed above. A contracted *d* is used for the A.-S. ð which is often substituted for *Thorn*. *Thorn* with a mark of contraction stands for *the* or *thæt* as the case may be.

Ligatures. The imitation of A.-S. writing causes the reappearance of *Æ* and *æ* now never found in Latin.

The **division of the words** in the Anglo-Saxon is very bad, and shows a complete want of understanding. We have corrected the spelling to some extent, adding the forms shown in the MS. in round brackets.

The only real **punctuation** mark seems to be a sort of semicolon, used to mark considerable pauses.

De confirmacione pro Thoma Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi

℣ Rex eisdem salutem; Inspeximus cartam domini Henrici nuper Regis Anglie patris nostri factam in hec verba; Henricus dei gracia Rex Anglie et / Francie et dominus Hibernie Archiepiscopis Episcopis Abbatibus Prioribus Ducibus Comitibus Baronibus Iusticiariis Vicecomitibus prepositis Ministris et / omnibus Balliuis et fidelibus suis salutem; Inspeximus cartam domini Ricardi nuper Regis Anglie secundi post conquestum factam in
.2. hec / verba Ricardus dei gracia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie Omnibus ad quos presentes littere peruenerint salutem; Inspeximus cartam / confirmacionis quam dominus Edwardus. nuper Rex Anglie auus noster fieri fecit in hec verba; Edwardus dei gracia Rex Anglie dominus Hibernie / et dux Aquitanie Archiepiscopis Episcopis Abbatibus Prioribus Comitibus Baronibus Iusticiariis Vicecomitibus prepositis Ministris et omnibus Balliuis / et

fidelibus suis salutem ; Inspeximus cartam celebris memorie domini. Henrici. quondam Regis Anglie progenitoris nostri in hec verba. Henricus. dei / gracia Rex Anglorum Episcopis Comitibus proceribus vicecomitibus ceterisque suis fidelibus francis et anglis in omnibus Comitatibus in quibus Archiepiscopus / Anselmus et monachi ecclesie Christi Cantuarie terras habent amicabiliter salutem ; Notum vobis facio me concessisse eis omnes / terras quas tempore Regis Edwardi cognati mei et tempore Willelmi patris mei habuerunt et saca et socne onstrande et / streame on Wudu et felde tolnes et teames et grithebreces et hamsocne et forestalles et infangenes thioues et flammene / fermthe super suos homines infra Burgos et extra in tantum et tam pleniter sicut proprii Ministri mei exquirere deberent et eciam / super tot thegenes quot eis concessit pater meus et nolo vt aliquis hominum se intromittat nisi ipsi et Ministri eorum quibus ipsi / committere voluerint nec francus nec anglus ; propterea quia ego concessi christo has consuetudines pro redempcione anime mee sicut / Rex Edwardus et pater meus antea fecerunt et nolo pati vt aliquis eas infringat si non vult perdere amiciciam meam / deus vos custodiat. H. þurghe (yurghe) godes geuu Ænglelandes (Anglelandes) kyning' grete alle mine biscopes & alle mine eorles & ealle / mine scirgereuan & ealle mine ðegenas francisce & anglisce on than sciran þe Anselm Ærcebiscop &. se hired (scerehirð) æt (æc) / Cristescircan (Cristescurean) on Cantþarbyrig (Cantiarbirys) habbað (habbad) land (landð) inne (mine) freondlice &. ic kyðe eop (eoy) þæt (&) ic habbe heom (heham) geunnan þæt hi bion ælc (celt) / þare lande purþe (yurye) [þe] hi. hafdon on Eadþordes (Ediordes) kynges dæge mine mæges & on þillelmes (yillelmes) kynges dæge mines faderes & / sacne & socne on strande on stream on wudan & on feldan tolnes & teames griðbreces (gridbrices) & hamsocne forestalles &. / infangenes þeofes & flemenefermðe ofer hiore agene men binnen burgan & buton spa (sia) full' & spa (sia) furð spa (sia) mine / agene þicneres (yicnerea) hit secan scoldan & ofer spa (sya) fela þegena spa (sya) ic heom to gelæten (gelaten) habbe & ic nelle þæt ænig [man ænig] þing / þeron tio (tye) buton hi & heore þicneres (yecneres) þe hi hit betæcen (bitæcen) þillað (yillalð) ne frencisce ne Ænglisce for þan (fordæn) þingan (yurgan) þe ic (hit) habbe / Criste þæs (dæs) gerihte (gerithe) forgeuen minre saple to ecere alisedenesse ealspa (ealsya) Eadþord (eadyorð) kyng'

& myn fader ær hafdon &. ic / nelle gaþafian (geð a fyan) þæt ænig' man þis to-brece be minan fullan freondscipe. God eop gehealde; Inspeximus eciam cartam / clare memorie domini. Stephani. dudum Regis Anglie progenitoris nostri in hec verba; Stephanus. dei gracia Rex Anglorum Episcopis Comitibus proceribus/vicecomitibus ceterisque suis fidelibus francis et anglis in omnibus Comitatibus in quibus Archiepiscopus Theobaldus et monachi ecclesie christi / Cantuarie terras habent amicabiliter salutem Notum vobis facio me concessisse eis omnes terras quas tempore Regis Edwardi / cognati mei et tempore Willelmi aui mei et tempore Henrici auunculi mei habuerunt et saca et socne on strande et streame / on Wude et felde tolnes et teames et grithebreces et hamsocne et forestealles et infangenes thioues et flemenefermthe super / suos homines infra burgos et extra in tantum et tam pleniter sicut proprii Ministri mei exquirere deberent et eciam super tot / thegenes quot eis concesserunt prefati Reges et nolo vt aliquis hominum se intromittat nisi ipsi et Ministri eorum quibus ipsi / committere voluerint nec francus nec anglus propterea quia ego concessi christo has consuetudines pro redempcione anime mee sicut / predicti Reges antea fecerunt et nolo pati vt aliquis eas infringat si non vult perdere amiciciam meam deus vos custodiat / S. þurgh (yugh') godes geuu Ænglelandes kining' grete ealle mine bisscopes & ealle mine eorles & ealle mine sciregereuan / & ealle mine þegenes (degenes) Francisce & Ænglisce on þan sciran þe þeobald (deobalð) Ærcebiscop & se hired at Cristescircen on Cantþarbirig (Cantiarabiris) / habbað land (landð) inne (mine) freondelice & ic cyþe eop þæt ic habbe heom geunnan þæt hi beon (by on) ælc (alc) þare lande purþe (yuye) þe hi / hæfdon (hefdon') on eadþordes kynges dæges mines mæges & on þillelmes kinges (kanges) dæge mines ealdefader & on Henries kinges / dæge mines eames & saca & socne on strande & on streame on þudan & on feldan tolnes & theames griðbreces (gridbreces) & / hamsocne forestealles &. infangenes þeofes & flammen fermðe ofer hiore ægene men binnen burgan & buton' / spa full' & spa forð spa mine ægene þicneres (yecneres) hit secan scoldan & ofer spa fela þegena spa ic heom to-gelæten habbe / & ic nelle þæt ænig (anig') man ænig (mananig') þing þeron tyo buton' hi & heore þicneres þe hi hit betæcan þillað (yillalð) ne francisce ne / Anglisce for þan þingan þe ic habbe criste þas gerithe forgeuen minre saple to æcere alysednesse

eal spa eadþord (eadyorð) kining / & mine ealdefader & mine eam ær (ar) hæfdon (hoesdon) & ic nelle geþauian þæt ani
P man þis to-breke be minan fullan freondescipe god / eop gehealde; Inspeximus insuper cartam bone memorie domini. Henrici. olim Regis Anglie progenitoris nostri in hec verba. Henricus. dei gracia Rex / Anglorum et Dux Normannorum et Aquitanorum et Comes Andegauie Episcopis Comitibus proceribus vicecomitibus ceterisque suis fidelibus francis et / Anglis in omnibus Comitatibus in quibus Archiepiscopus Teobaldus et Monachi ecclesie christi Cantuarie terras habent amicabiliter salutem / Notum vobis facio me concessisse Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi et Monachis omnes terras quas tempore Regis Edwardi cognati / mei et tempore Willelmi proaui mei et Henrici Regis aui mei habuerunt et saca et socne on strande et streame on Wude et felde / tolnes et teames et grithbreces et heimfare et forestealles et infangenes thiofes et flemene fermthe super suos homines / infra burgos et extra in tantum et tam pleniter sicut proprii Ministri mei exquirere deberent et eciam super tot thegenes / quot eis concesserunt Willelmus proauus meus et Henricus auus meus et nolo vt aliquis hominum se intromittat nisi ipsi / et Ministri eorum quibus ipsi committere voluerint nec francus nec anglus; propterea quia ego concessi christo has consuetudines pro / redempcione anime mee sicut Rex Edwardus cognatus meus et proauus meus Rex Willelmus et Henricus Rex auus meus antea fecerunt [1] / et nolo pati vt eas aliquis infringat si non vult perdere amiciciam meam. Deus vos custodiat;

[*Portion of a further entry not here transcribed.*]

PLATE XXXV

P. R. O. Issue Roll (Exchequer of Receipt), No. 628, m. 7.

A. D. 1417.

The writing of this example contrasts with that in the last plate. It is less formal and more current, not unlike that of Plate XXX B in its general characteristics, although much more careful. The tall letters have triangular loops by which they are tied to the letters which they follow. The words are so far as possible written without raising the pen.

Individual letters. Headed *a* (the prevailing type) is written in two pieces, the stem being one, while the two loops are added to it in form

[1] *antea fecerunt* interlineated.

like a 3 reversed. *A* is all in one line (*Ambassiata* l. 6) and the upper loop shows a tendency to become narrow, rather like a modern written *A*. *d* consists of two almost equal loops, the angle in the lower loop having almost disappeared. *e* is usually inverted. The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem and is continued under the line. *i* is usually accented and the second of two *i*s produced. *I* has a flourish leading to the head. Note the form of *N*, rather like long *s* with a flourish. *q* is much curved, a little like the *con-* sign. *r* is a simple fork : the round form, only used after *o*, is sometimes with a tail, sometimes without. *w* shows no trace of its derivation from interlaced *VV*, but is characterized by the two small loops with which it finishes.

The **abbreviations** require no special comment. They are mostly written on to the words which they concern. The common sign of abbreviation is sometimes a curved line with a dot under it (*termino* l. 3). The *-rum* termination is used after *a* (l. 17).

Paragraph marks of the *ss* and *cc* types are used.

Notice the **underlining** of the sums of money named in the text, and the horizontal and vertical **ruling**.

Special Notes.

ll. 2, 3. The Chancellor has assigned his allowance for wax to John Spenser, Clerk of the Great Wardrobe. *currens*, current, i.e. the letter will continue to be a good warrant for payment as often as necessary. *mandata* = warrants.

l. 4. *Respondebit* : this means that Spenser will be debited with this sum in his account at the Exchequer.

l. 6. *celebratis*, a blunder for *celebratum*.

ll. 5–10. Lord FitzHugh, treasurer, receives £35 on two accounts: (1) for his expenses at the Council of Constance, (2) for his wages, fees, and rewards as treasurer.

ll. 11–12. *Stouenes*, probably for *Stevens*. *liberatis per manus proprias*, delivered into his own hands.

l. 14. *magnis*, a blunder for *magno*.

l. 15. *mercede*, a reward for the apprehension of Oldcastle.

l. 16. *custubus*, costs. *consideracionem*, judgement *or* award.

l. 21. *hm̃ⁱ* = *huiusmodi*. *certo*, a fixed annual payment.

l. 26. *conc̃.* = *concessit*.

l. 28. *marz* = marks (French).

l. 33. *legis*, a blunder for *Regis*.

l. 36 (last word). *municione* : this illustrates the difficulty of reading words with many successive *i*s, *n*s, *m*s, and *u*s, such as *nimium*, *nummum*, &c.

PLATE XXXVI, A

P. R. O. Accounts, &c. (Exchequer, K. R.), Box 407, No. 13, f. 12.

A. D. 1425.

This is a leaf of a wardrobe book containing a list of purchases made for Henry VI. The writing is more vertical in character than the last and rather less current. The forms of the letters, though rougher, are also more angular; they are, however, in most respects similar to those of the last example.

Individual letters. *d* has a marked angle in the lower bow. *h* has its tail brought under the line to the right, as in Plate XXXIV, and *H* is similar. The leading flourish of *p* and the line produced from its bow meet and form a triangle with the stem; this prepares the way for the later form of *p* rather resembling an arabic 4. The short *r* is used after *e* (*Hungerford* l. 4) and *h* (*Chivaler* l. 4) as well as *o*. Initial *s* is often long. The form of *w* is very distinct.

Notice the **underlining** of the sums of money.

Empcio diuersarum / rerum et stuffure per / Iohannem Stafford' / nuper Thesaurarium Anglie / ad opus Regis Henrici. / vj^ti. de Lodowico / Roberssart Milite / et sociis suis executoribus / testamenti domini Henrici. v^ti. / nuper Regis Anglie. /

Et in diuersis rebus[1] et stuffura emptis per predictum Iohannem Stafford' nuper Thesaurarium Anglie de Lodowico Robesard'. / Chiualer et sosiis [*sic*] suis executoribus testamenti dicti nuper Regis Henrici quinti ad opus Regis nunc et penes dictum / Custodem remanencium per recognicionem ipsius Custodis Garderobe prout intitulatur in margine cuiusdam Rotuli / per Walterum Hungerford' Chiualer Thesaurarium Anglie coram Baronibus Scaccarii exibiti sicut continetur in Memorandis / de anno iiij^to Regis Henrici sexti inter Recorda de termino Pasche de eodem. anno Rotulo tercio ex parte / Rememoratoris Regis—— Cxxviij li v s viij d Videlicet—— /

j drap dastat de baudekyn dor ouere des alauntes / blankes pris x li ij Chaierclothes de baudekyn blanke et vermaille broche des corones / dor pris le pece lxxiij s iiij d iiij quysshynsclothes dont ij long ij curt' de baudekyn poudres / des libardes dor pris de toutz xxvj s viij d. ij long quysshyns et ij curt de baudekyn / blanke et vermaille broche de Corones dor pris de tout xxxiij s iiij d ij pair' de fustians / pris le peir' xiij s iiij d v paire de lintheux de Reyns vsez pris le pair' xxvj s viij d / j heuedschete de Reyns pris iij s iiij d. j Oreler de satyn double vert pris. vj s viij d / ij autres orelers de satyn sengle enbroudes pris le

[1] *rebus* interlineated.

pece. vs. j lit de baudekyn de soy / blanke vert et glauc' palez contenant testour celour et Countrepoint pris de toutz iiij li xiij.s / iiij d j banker darras ouere de diuerse ymages qe comence en scripture. Ieo vous ayme. / loialment contenant vj verges quarres pris le verge iij s iij testours ouec iij Coueringes de / worsted' vermaille enbroudez pris de toutz xx s iij petitz carpettz de diuersez werkes / pris le pece iij s xiiij Couerlitis de worsted' vermaille de diuersez sortes pris le pece lun ouec / lautre iiij s j couertour de worsted' vermaille enbroudes dun corn pris v s iij curtyns / del suite ouec j. trauers pris chacun iiij s iiij peces de worsted'. blank pris de tout vj^{s} viij^{d} / j coster deworsted' vermaille. contenant xj verges de longour et iij verges de large. pris iiij s / vj tapetes de worsted'. vermaille chacun contenant vj verges de longour et quatre verges de large. / pris le pece . iiij s ix couertours de worsted' vermaille pur pailetz pris le pece xij d. / vj tapetez ouec vj curtyns de worsted' vermaille pris le pece . xviij d. j lit [de] / worsted'. vermaille enbroudes de Chasteux ouec ij curtyns pris xxvj s viij d. ij. / celours ij testours ij couertours de worsted' vermaille et noier palez pris xx s. xj / tapites de worsted' vermaile et noier palez[1] pris le pece ij s iiij tapites de blanc et vermaile / worsted pris le pece. ij s j. lit de demy cell' de mesme assise pale de verte. blanke et / vermaille. worsted'. ouec ij curtyns pris xiij s iiij d .j. lit de mene assise de worsted' / rouge et verte. palez ouec iij curtyns le cele entier pris xiij s iiij d j autre lit de mesne assise de worsted'. /

PLATE XXXVI, B

P. R. O. Early Chancery Proceedings, File 12, No. 62.
[A. D. 1436–50.]

This document was most probably written by a professional scribe. It is less regular than the official hands of the following example, and is chosen to show the continued use of the rune 'thorn' in English writing (whence the modern-antique *y* for *th*) and the substitution of a letter indistinguishable from *z* for the Saxon form of *g*. This latter letter seems to have had a sound midway between *g* and *y*, since it is used indifferently in *yere* and *gift*. The writing is less current than in the next example and seems to be much less rapid. The pen was held nearly straight.

Individual letters. Headed *a* is formed in two pieces or probably three, the bows being separate from the stem (*also* l. 13). *d* has a

[1] *et noier palez* interlineated.

marked angle in the lower bow, and the inverted *e* is very like it. *h* is in two pieces and the tail forms a loop. *i* is seldom accented and the accent is nearly circular. The round *r* is not always used after *o* (*morowe* l. 3). Medial *v* occurs, apparently to indicate a phonetic difference (*dissevynge* l. 11). *y* is distinguished from *Thorn* by its curly tail and its dot. *z* (*heirez* l. 7) and *ȝ* (*g* or *y*) are indistinguishable.

Abbreviations are few and unimportant; the sign for *-er* is restricted to its proper use. The commonly used final flourish may have been deliberately written to indicate an omitted *e*; and has been so extended here. *pp* is written as a **ligature**.

Vn to the ryghte worschupfulle and reuerent fadyr / in godde the Bysshoppe of Bathe Chaunceller of Englonde /

℣ Besekethe mekely William Smythe of Hanam where that William Tournoure and Alice his wife in the morowe of allesowlynne in the yere of the regne of oure soueraygne lorde the kynge that now is xiiij / areryde a fyne at Westminster by fore William Babyngtone at that tyme beyng Chefe Justice of the Comynne bynche of oure Soueraynge lorde and other of his felowys Justices vn to the sayde beseker Johan / Tournoure ande Robert Tournoure of the maner of Brokenboroughe wythe the appurtenauncez in the Shire of Gloucestre by the wyche sayde fyne the sayde William Tournoure and Alice knowlychyde the sayde / maner wythe the appurtenauncez for to be the ryghte of the sayde beseker as that the sayde beseker Johan and Robert hadde of the gyft of the sayde William and Alice Ande the sayde William ande Alice / ande the heirez of Alice ben bounde to warrant the sayde maner wythe pertinauncez to the sayde beseker ande his heirez as in the sayde fyne more pleynly apperethe for the wyche fyne so be areryde the sayde / beseker payde vn to the sayde William Tournoure xl.li Ande where in dede the grete parte and parcelle of the maner was alienede longe tyme by fore the sayde fyne arreryde by the sayde William / ande Alice vn to diuersez personez ande a reconisaunce of a Statute marchaunt made vn to one Thomas Rygge squyer by the sayde William Tournoure of Cxx li for godez borowyde of the sayde / Thomas Rygge out of the wyche reconisaunce execucion is suyde by the executours of the sayde Thomas Rygge ande hadde ande so the sayde beseker is notte lykkely in his lyfe neuer to resceve / ande haue no profite of the sayde maner wythe the appurtenauncez to his grete enpouerychynge Ande now the sayde William Tournoure by grete ande sotyl myaginacion in dissevynge and disheri/tynge the sayde beseker of the sayde maner seythe that he ande hys wyfe hadde no thynge in the maner wythe the appurtenauncez at the tyme of

the arrerynge of the fyne nother no tyme after / but other personez stode enfeffede to his vse Ande also the sayde William Tournoure dayly laborethe to aliene the sayde maner withe the appurtenauncez to grete ande notable personez vn to / wham the sayde beseker dar[1] haue a do wythe nother melle Ande wythe oute the sayde William Tournoure ande his feffez ande alle they that haue eny estate by hymme by youre gracyouse / aduyse may relesse vn to the sayde beseker he is lykkely[2] to be perpetuelly disherityde and destruyde Wher fore plese vn to youre graciouse lordshuppe to considere thes premissez ande that a / wrytte vnder a certeyne payne by yow alymytyde myghte be dyrettyde vn to the sayde William Tournoure to appere by fore yow at a certeyne day in the Chauncery of our souerayne lorde to / aunswere of thez premissez an to be rulyde by youre gracious aduyse yn this mater as gode conscience resonne and feythe requirethe for the loue of godde ande in the wey of Cheryte :— /

PLATE XXXVII

P. R. O. Plea Roll (Palatinate of Lancaster), No. 2, m. 8.

A. D. 1429.

There are two hands on this plate, since the third entry is written by a different scribe. Both hands are country hands; but though hasty and somewhat rough, they have lost the straggling appearance of the late fourteenth-century hands, and are rigidly vertical in character. The *l*s and *b*s retain their triangular heads, and the letters are still very angular in appearance. The writing is almost completely current and the pen seems to have been slanted.

Individual letters. Headed *a* is frequently made in one stroke (*Laurencii* l. 3), and often has a sharp angle in the lower bow. *A* is made on the same plan. The bow of *b* is left open, or only closed by the loop of the head. *C* is made in one stroke, the tail being continued to form the vertical bar. *d* (in one hand) has an angle in the lower bow. *e* is of the inverted type. *E* is like *C* with the addition of a cross bar. Both forms of *h* are used, the bow beginning either from the foot of the stem, or some way up it. *i* is accented when doubtful, the accent being much rounded and approaching the form of a dot (*quindecim* l. 15). *o* is made in one line; the method is well exemplified in *Ideo* (l. 3). *r* is as usual a mere fork, the round form being only used after *o*. Long *s* is only medial. The cross of *t* is written on by continuing the tail. *v* shows a tendency to confusion with *b* (*vicecomiti* l. 10). Notice the unusual

[1] *dar*: *not* appears to have been omitted.

[2] The MS. has ' kykkely ', an extra flourish having converted the *l* into a *k*.

form of *W* in the third entry. Compare *Westhalghton* in l. 24. *y* has no dot.

The **abbreviations** are mostly written on to the words which they concern. Note the dropping of all sign of abbreviation in *optulit*, and the compound contraction of *per plegium* (l. 16).

Ligatures. *st* has almost ceased to be a ligature, but *et* is invariably written as one, and *de* sometimes (*de* l. 7). *pp* (*per plegium* l. 16) and *pr* (*Prestwyche* l. 21) are also combined.

The **punctuation** is almost entirely by capitals. The *ss* **paragraph mark** is used.

Lancastria ℙ Iurata inter Iohannem filium Iohannis Norreis[1] querentem et Iohannem de Radclif de Thornetonia in Amondernesse in Comitatu predicto yomon[2] de placito detencionis cuiusdam / pixidis sigillate cum cartis scriptis et aliis munimentis in eadem pixide contentis ponitur in respectum hic vsque diem Veneris proximum post festum sancti / laurencii pro defectu Iuratorum quia nullus venit Ideo vicecomes habeat corpora et cetera. Et apponat Vndecim tales et cetera. /

Lancastria ℙ Iohannes de Bradschagh' per attornatum suum optulit se versus Willelmum de Merseden' de Tokhols in Comitatu predicto gentilmon. de placito quod reddat ei / viginti libras quas ei debet et iniuste detinet et cetera Et ipse non venit Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti sicut prius quod caperet eum et cetera Et vicecomes modo mandat quod / non est inuentus et cetera Ideo sicut pluries capiatur quod sit hic die Veneris proximo post festum Sancti laurencii et cetera. /

Lancastria ℙ Willelmus Abbas Monasterii beate Marie de Whalley executor[3] testamenti Iohannis Salley nuper vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Whalley[3] per attornatum suum optulit se versus Willelmum Stanwych' de Eboraco yomon et Iohannem / de Brimley de Eboraco yomon executores testamenti Thome Brimley de placito quod reddant ei decem libras quas ei iniuste / detinent et cetera Et versus Iohannem de Witherley de Burtonia in comitatu Staffordie yomon de placito quod reddat ei sexaginta / solidos quos ei debet et iniuste detinet et cetera Et ipsi non venerunt Et

[1] Note the two forms of the *r* occurring together.
[2] i. e. yeoman, an intruded English word.
[3] Interlineation from *executor* to *Whalley*.

sicut prius preceptum fuit vicecomiti quod caperet eos et cetera Et / vicecomes mandat quod non sunt inuenti et cetera Ideo sicut pluries capiantur quod sint hic die Veneris proximo post festum sancti laurencii / et cetera. /

Lancastria. ℙ Iacobus filius Nicholai de Athirtonia Militis executor testamenti predicti Nicholai per attornatum suum optulit se versus Gilbertum de Halsale / personam ecclesie de Halsale in comitatu Lancastrie et Elenam que fuit vxor Roberti de Halsale armigeri de Halsale. in comitatu predicto widowe executores / testamenti predicti Roberti de placito quod reddant ei quindecim libras quas ei iniuste detinent et cetera Et ipsi non venerunt Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti / quod attachiaret eos et cetera Et vicecomes mandat quod attachiati sunt videlicet vterque eorum per plegium Henrici Halsale et Nicholai lout Ideo ipsi in misericordia[1] et cetera Et / preceptum est vicecomiti quod distringat eos et cetera Ita quod sint hic die Veneris proximo post festum sancti laurencii et cetera /

Lancastria. ℙ Willelmus de Athirtonia Miles in propria persona sua optulit se versus Nicholaum de Pynyngtonia de Pynyngtonia [*sic*] in Comitatu predicto gentilmon. Simonem / de Bradshagh' de Pynyngton' in Comitatu predicto gentilmon Ricardum de Bradshagh' de Westhalghton' in Comitatu predicto yomon Ricardum le Arowesmyth' / de Westhalghton' in Comitatu predicto yomon Iohannem de Rigby seniorem de Westhalghtonia in Comitatu predicto yomon. Willelmum de Rigby de Westhalghtonia / in Comitatu predicto yomon Iohannem de Prestwyche nuper de Westlegh' in Comitatu predicto yomon. Iacobum. de Worsley de Bedfordia in Comitatu predicto yomon / et Dauid de Pynyngtonia Iuniorem de Westlegh' in Comitatu predicto yomon de placito quare ipsi simul cum Ricardo de Haryngtonia nuper de Westlegh' / in Comitatu predicto Gentilmon et Roberto de Andertonia de Westhalghtonia in Comitatu predicto gentilmon. vi et armis in Iohannem filium Roberti de Rylondes / seruientem ipsius Willelmi de Athirtonia apud Westhalghtoniam. insultum fecerunt et ipsum verberauerunt vulneraverunt et / male tractauerunt per quod idem Willelmus de Athirtonia seruicium ser-

[1] *Misericordia.* The amercement is noted in the margin of the roll in order that it may be readily charged in the account of the amercements of the court. When this is done it is struck through, to indicate that it has been duly posted.

uientis sui predicti per magnum tempus amisit Et alia enormia et cetera ad / graue dampnum et cetera Et contra pacem et cetera Et ipsi non venerunt Et preceptum fuit vicecomiti quod caperet eos et cetera Et vicecomes modo mandat quod non sunt / inuenti et cetera Ideo sicut prius capiantur quod sint hic die veneris proximo post festum Sancti laurencii et cetera. /

PLATE XXXVIII, A

P. R. O. Patent Roll (Chancery), No. 443, m. 3 from end.

A. D. 1439.

The writing in this specimen is a typical example of the neat Chancery-hand of the period. It is the same in principle with the 'Gothic' book-hand on which our earliest type was modelled, but owing to the necessity of comparatively rapid writing it is not quite so rigidly limited to thick vertical strokes joined by diagonal hair-lines. It is, however, carefully and regularly written, with a vertical pen.

Individual letters. *a* is sometimes in one piece, sometimes in two; in the latter case it is tied from the middle to the next letter. *A* is of the same type, with a sharp angle in the lower bow (*Aldermannus* l. 25). *B* is of the capital type. *e* is sometimes regularly formed—the tail not coming below the line—sometimes inverted. The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem and is curved under the line to the right. *i* is rarely accented, the accent being small and much curved. *I* has a forked head, the right-hand limb of the fork being straight. Long *s* is only used initially in the combination *st*. *S* is very nearly the same as the German written *S*, the tail being brought back through the head.

Abbreviations are as usual. The common sign is a dot with a curved line over it, but the *-er* sign is employed freely for the same purpose. The *-rum* sign is used after *a* (*librarum* l. 24).

The only **ligature** is *pp*.

The **punctuation** is by full stops and semicolons.

An alteration is indicated by a **caret** mark (l. 15). A **hyphen** is indicated by two diagonal strokes (*quintodecimo* ll. 11–12, *consuetudinem* ll. 22–23). The usual **paragraph mark** like *cc* is used.

Special Notes.

l. 5. *presentauerimus*: here the *-er* sign is joined on to the *i* and the accent of the *i* written over the *m*.

l. 7. *Epiphanie*.

l. 8. *indictatus* = indicted.

l. 11. *utlagatus* = outlawed.

l. 13. *Clerimonia* = clergy.

l. 15. *conviccionem*, a phonetic spelling: note the distinction between *cc* and *ct* in *rectatus* in the next line.

l. 16. *rectatus* = arraigned.

l. 17. *stet recto*, stand to his right, i.e. stand his trial.

l. 21. *tocius* for *totius*, *c* having by this time completely ousted *t* before *i* with a following vowel. *impanellatus* = empanelled.

l. 23. *onerauerunt* = charged.

l. 24. It will be observed that *touching* not *kissing* the book is the binding act of the oath.

l. 26. *franchesias* = franchises.

l. 27. *forinsecis* = strangers.

l. 30. *est incursus*: the verb is used as a deponent and as an intransitive verb in the same breath.

l. 31. *adiudicatas* = awarded.

l. 35. *hobelariorum* = hobelers, i.e. light horse.

The date is omitted.

PLATE XXXVIII, B

P. R. O. Warrants for the Great Seal (Chancery), Series I, File 1546, No. 40.

A. D. 1454.

The body of this act of the Privy Council is written in the hand of the secretary, T. Kent, a clerk of the Privy Seal. This is decidedly less angular and more compact than the Court-hand of the previous specimen, and contrasts with the Chancery-hand of the 'Livery Clause' at the top. The signatures offer a variety of somewhat careless hands.

Individual letters. *a* is headless in the secretary-hand and the signatures (compare Plate XLVII); the diamond-shaped body of the letter is characteristic of the period. *b* has a rounded loop, as have most of the tall letters. The inverted *e* alternates with a new variety with a diamond-shaped loop. *g* is made rather like a modern *y* with a horizontal line across the top. The tail of *h* curls indifferently either way. *i* is without accent or dot. *M* is no longer uncial, but more like a modern *m*. *p* has a simplified form something like *x*. *r* is shortened so as not to come below the line, and is written like a modern *v* except in the Chancery-hand and the signatures; the other form is found after *p* (*procuratour* l. 3) and *e* (*yere* l. 2), as well as *o*. Long *s* is used as an initial, and short *s* is made in a new way (*wages* l. 6). The form of *w* is simplified, resembling *ll* in the signatures. *y* is not dotted and is distinguished from *thorn* by its curly tail.

The **abbreviations** are few and simple, the sign for *-er* being the most important. In the Chancery-hand the curved line with a dot is the common sign.

There is a certain revival of **ligatures**, *e* being written in combination with *y* (*yere* l. 2), and *thorn* (*the* l. 3). In *wisdome* (l. 4) *s* is combined with *d*.

The **punctuation** is by full stops. Parallel dashes are used as a **caret** mark (l. 4).

Memorandum quod die et anno subscriptis hec billa liberata fuit domino Cancellario Anglie apud Westmonasterium exequenda[1] /

The vij day of Novembre the yere et cetera xxxiij. at Westminster in the Sterret Chambre. The Reuerent Fader in god the Bisshope of Ely besoughte my lordes to haue him discharged / of thoffice of the kinges procuratour in the Court of Rome insomoche as he may not from henceforthe entende therto. And forthwithe my lordes had communicacion to / ordeyne a newe and considering the honour wisdome and experience that Maister Vincent Clement nowe the Popes Collectour in this Royaume is of[2] ordeined aduised / and appointed that the saide Maister Vincent should be entreated to take upon him the saide occupacion. he to haue suche power of the King as other the Kinges / procuratours have had in tyme passed withe wages and fees therto[3] accustumed. /

Anno die mense et loco predictis actum est vt supra. et mandabatur. / domino Cancellario Anglie. literas fieri facere in forma consueta. / } T Kent /

T Cant' /
W. Wynton' R york /
J. lincoln' /
W Norwicen' /
R. Couen' et lich' /
R Salisbury R Warrewyk /
J Worcestre[4] Prior Sancti Iohannis / decanus Sancti Seuerini /
Beaumont Cromwell /

[1] The *q* here has been altered from an *a*.
[2] *is of* interlineated.
[3] The *o* is very faint and hardly shows.
[4] The flourish or monogram shown in the Plate is one habitually prefixed to his signature by this Earl.

PLATE XXXIX

P. R. O. Receipt Roll (Exchequer of Receipt), No. 806, 11 *July*. A. D. 1448.

This example is less formal than the Chancery enrolment hand of the same date and shows the gradual abandonment of the angular style which prevailed in the earlier part of the century. The kind of writing now adopted remained, with some slight modification, the normal style until the adoption of the Italian hand in the 16th and 17th centuries. It differs from the rounded hands of the 14th century in being completely current, and this involves an alteration in the formation of almost all the letters.

Individual letters. *a* is usually made in one line, the cross-stroke which serves as a tie to the following letter being sometimes omitted, sometimes added afterwards. The bow of *b* is closed. *e* is inverted. *h* is in two pieces, the bow curving under the line to the right. The accent of *i* is a knot written on to the word; the second of two *i*s is produced. *l* has a triangular loop. *o* is written like *e* but with a mere hook in place of the loop, much as in modern writing. Medial *v* occurs to indicate a separate sound (*Gerveys* l. 5) but there is no initial *u*. *z* is long (*FitzRauf* l. 11).

Abbreviations are numerous but not unusual. *pp* is written as a **ligature.**

Note the vertical and horizontal **ruling**, apparently with a dry point.

℣ Die Iouis xj° die Iulii /

Sussexia — De Iohanne Perpount et Iohanne Yerman Collectoribus Custume et subsidii Regis in portu Ville Cicestrie vij.li de eisdem Custuma et subsidio / pro Domino de Bourchier per restitucionem vnius tallie videlicet xvij° / die Februarii anno xxiij° Regis nunc leuate per manus / Ricardi Wode /

De Eisdem Collectoribus Custume et subsidii predictorum in portu predicto lxxiij li de eisdem Custuma et Subsidio [1]/

mutuum per talliam — De Domino de Bourchier lxxiij.li de mutuo per talliam proximo superius cancellatam

℣ persolutum per assignacionem secundo die Decembris anno xxvij° Regis nunc /

[1] Entry cancelled and following line inserted. See a note in *Proceedings* of the Society of Antiquaries, 2nd Series, XXV, p. 29: cf. above p. 173.

Suffolkia — De Iohanne Hunt et Iohanne Gerveys Collectoribus subsidii lanarum in portu Ville Gippeswici Cxiij li vj s viij d de eodem subsidio / — pro Thoma domino de Roos de *xl li*[1] annuatim pro / sustentacione sua per manus Iohannis Helmesley /

Bedfordia — De Iohanne Durem et Waltero Taylard' lxvj s viij d pro maritagio Edmundi Randes consanguinei et heredis Thome Radwell' defuncti / — pro Willelmo Proctour vno auditorum in scaccario pro / feodo suo videlicet pro termino Trinitatis anno xxiiij^to terminis / Michaelis Hillarii et Pasche anno xxv^to Regis nunc per / manus proprias /

De Firmario siue occupatore Manerii vocati Rawell' Maner et aliorum terrarum et tenementorum in Villa de Radwell liij s iiij d de exitibus eorundem /

Warrewic' Leycestria — De Thoma Erdynton' Chiualer nuper vicecomite iiij li de exitibus balliue sue /

Lincolnia — De Collectoribus prime medietatis vnius x^e Regi a clero. anno. xxiiij^to concesse in archidiaconatu lincolnie xv li iiij s x d ob de eadem medietate / — pro Episcopo Karliolensi per restitucionem duarum talliarum videlicet vnius de *xiij li / vj s ij d ob* et alterius de *xxxviij s viij d* / videlicet xxvij^o die Octobris anno xxiiij^to Regis nunc / leuatarum per manus Iohannis Holm' /

Norhantonia — De Waltero Mauntell' nuper Vicecomite vij li pro eo quod imbeselauit breue Regis de exigi facias ad sectam Iohannis Wythmale versus Ricardum Dalby et alios de placito transgressionis[2] / — pro Thoma Greswolde Attornato Regis in / banco de feodo suo /

Hertfordia — De Thoma Blount de Asshewell' in Comitatu Hertfordie husbondman' vno plegiorum Thome Smyth' de eadem Chaundeler et aliorum lx s pro transgressione Willelmo Fitz Rauf' facta[2] /

mutuum per talliam — De Thoma Greswold x li de mutuo per duas tallias proximo superius cancellatas

℔ persolutum per assignacionem xvij^o die Iulii anno xxxij^do Regis nunc /

[1] ? a mistake for *marcis*.

[2] Entries cancelled and following line inserted later.

Lincolnia	De Thoma Meres nuper Vicecomite Cxiiij s iiij d ob de exitibus balliue sue /	pro Iohanne Cerf' et Thoma Thorp' per restitucionem vnius tallie / videlicet xxij^{do} die Februarii anno xxij^{do} Regis nunc leuate / per manus /
	De Nicholao Bowet Chiualer vicecomite xiij li vj s viij d de exitibus balliue sue post solucionem proximi profri sui /	pro Iohanne Cerf' et Clericis suis per restitucionem vnius tallie / videlicet primo die Iulii anno xxj^{o} Regis nunc leuate per / manus /
Anglia	De Roberto Mouter Clerico. Hanaperii Cancellarie Regis xxxj li vij d ob de exitibus eiusdem Hanaperii /	pro Thoma Kirkeby Clerico Rotulorum ac magistro / Domus Conuersorum de feodo suo per manus Ricardi / Cabull' /
Cestria	De Collectoribus secunde medietatis vnius x^{e} Regi a Clero anno xxiiij^{to} concesse in Archidiaconatu Cestrie iiij li iij s iiij d de eadem medietate /	pro Ricardo Nowers et Iohanne Waget per restitucionem duarum / talliarum videlicet vnius de *l s* xxv^{to} die Februarii anno / xxiiij^{to} et alterius de *xxxiij s iiij d* xvij^{o} die / Iulii anno xxv^{to} Regis nunc leuatarum per manus Thome / Colston' /
Sussexia	De Episcopo Cicestrensi xx li de secunda medietate vnius x^{e} Regi a Clero anno xxiiij^{to} concesse ipsum Episcopum contingentes pro spiritualibus et temporalibus suis[1] /	pro eodem Episcopo Cicestrensi
mutuum per talliam.	De Episcopo Cicestrensi xx li de mutuo per talliam proximo superius cancellatam ℔ persolutum in moneta termino Pasche anno xxvij^{o} Regis nunc /	

[1] Entry cancelled and following line inserted later.

PLATE XL, A

P. R. O. Controlment Roll (King's Bench), No. 81, m. 20.

A. D. 1450.

This is a good example of a roll in which the entries are very hurriedly made and written up to date from time to time so as to record the progress of each case and to serve as a kind of calendar to the ordinary rolls of the Court. This and the number of abbreviations make it difficult to read, but it is useful as showing the way in which the letters are formed. It should be compared with Plate XXIV A, a less hasty example from the same series.

Individual letters. *a* is invariably made without raising the pen and comes well above the line. *B* is of the triangular type but becoming more rounded and less easy to distinguish from other capitals. *c* is completely closed, the tail being continued to form the top. *e* is inverted and often has a distinct waist. *f* and long *s* come a long way below the line. *h* is curled under the line to the left. The accent of *i* is a knot or flourish written on to the last letter of the word. *r* has a shoulder when final; the round form, used after *o*, has a long tail, making it indistinguishable from *ꝛ*. Long *s* is only medial. Medial *v* is not used. *ꝛ* is long.

Abbreviations are numerous, especially suspensions. The common sign is much curved, but usually without a dot under it. The *-rum* sign is used after *a*.

Ligatures. *de* is sometimes written as a ligature, and *ss*, *ff*, and *pp* always.

Punctuation. A diagonal dash serving for a full stop is the only mark.

Middle-
sexia
Essexia

vtlagatus
℣ Iohannes Stokwell de Ingerstonia in Comitatu Essexie Carpenter capias Octabis Trinitatis pro quibusdam feloniis vnde in dicto Comitatu / Middlesexie indictatus est—Per Bagam[1] Supradictam Ad quem diem breue capias vicecomiti Essexie cum proclamacione Mense Michaelis rotulo.

s' Ad quem diem anno xxix nichil / breue capias cum proclamacione Mense Pasche. Ad quem diem nichil breue capias cum proclamacione Octabis Michaelis. Ad quem diem Anno xxx nichil breue capias cum proclamacione Mense Pasche ad quem diem nichil breue capias cum proclamacione Octabis Michaelis. Ad quem diem / [Anno xxxj breue retornatum fuit]. Ideo exigas vicecomiti Middlesexie Mense Pasche rotulo. Ad quem diem vice-

[1] The *Baga de Secretis* or bag of the Indictments for the county. See an article in *English Historical Review*, XXIII, p. 508.

comes retornauit quod ad Comitatum Middlesexie tentum apud Osylstoniam die Iouis in festo Sancti Alphegi anno
vtlagatus xxxj Henrici VI predictus Iohannes / Stokwell' vtlagatus fuit prout patet per breuia Regis de termino Pasche anno xxxj supradicto. /

Middlesexia ℙ Venire facias die lune proximo post cras Ascenscionis domini vtlagatus Thomam Bayly de Stanwell' in Comitatu predicto husbondman vtlagatus Iacobum Belfeld de / Clegworth iuxta Rachedale in Comitatu Lancastrie gentilman vtlagatus Iohannem Hobson' nuper de Ashtonia in Comitatu Lancastrie yoman / vtlagatus Ricardum Hobson' nuper de Ashton' in Comitatu Lancastrie yoman' vtlagatus Petrum Trafford' de Mancestre in Comitatu Lancastrie yoman et / vtlagatus Thomam Salman' de Southmymmes in Comitatu predicto husbondman' responsuros Regi de
s' diuersis transgressionibus vnde indictati sunt Per / Bagam Supradictam. Ad quem diem vicecomes retornauit quod ipsi nichil habent et cetera Ideo capias Octabis Trinitatis rotulo. Ad quem diem breue exigas Octabis Hillarii rotulo.
exigas Ad quem diem vicecomes retornauit quod / ad Comitatum Middlesexie tentum apud Braynford' die Iouis proximo ante festum Circumsicionis domini Anno xxix Henrici VI
vtlagati predicti Thomas Bayly Iacobus Belfeld' / Iohannes Hobson' Ricardus Hobson' Petrus Trafford' et Thomas Salman' vtlagati fuerunt prout patet per breuia Regis de termino Hillarii Anno xxix supradicto /

Suspensus isto termino
Londonie ℙ Cognicio diuersarum feloniarum per Willelmum Racheford' nuper de Londoniis yoman coram Thoma Beaufitz
Cognicio vno Coronatorum domini Regis in / Civitate Londoniarum
extendas facta patet—Per Bagam Supradictam [*Cancelled*]/

Marescallo vtlagatus
Hertfordia ℙ Rogerus Genney de Asshewell' in Comitatu predicto Taylour capias Octabis Trinitatis pro quibusdam feloniis
s' vnde indictatus est—Per / Bagam Supradictam. Ad quem diem nichil breue capias Octabis Michaelis. Ad quem diem anno xxix nichil breue capias eum eo quod est extra custodiam dicti Marescalli Octabis Hillarii Ad quem

exigas

diem breue / exigas Octabis Michaelis rotulo. Ad quem diem anno xxx nichil breue exigas de nouo Mense Pasche rotulo. Ad quem diem nichil breue exigas de nouo Octabis Martini rotulo xx Ad quem diem vicecomes retornauit quod ad Comitatum Hertfordie tentum ibidem / die Iouis proximo post festum sancti Leonardi abbatis anno

vtlagatus

xxxj Henrici VI predictus Rogerus Genney vtlagatus fuit prout patet per breuia Regis de termino Michaelis Anno xxxj supradicto /

Anglia Rotulo xxxiij°

℣ Memorandum quod die Lune proximo post festum Ascensionis domini isto eodem termino coram domino Rege apud Westmonasterium venerunt Willelmus / Shirlond' de Suthwerk in Comitatu Surr' Baker Thomas Cardyff' de eadem in eodem Comitatu [1] Brewer. Thomas Ingolff' de Camerwell' in Comitatu / Surr' yoman' et Iohannes Bruton' de eadem in eodem Comitatu yoman' in propriis personis suis et manuceperunt pro Iohanne Paas de Suthwerk Carpenter / ad tunc presente in Curia et idem Iohannes Paas ad tunc assumpsit pro se ipso quod ipse amodo se bene geret erga dominum Regem et / cunctum populum suum et precipue erga Edwardum Norfolk' scilicet quod ipse non inferret nec inferri procurabit per se nec per alios / nomine suo eidem Edwardo seu alicui de populo domini Regis dampnum aliquod seu grauamen de corporibus suis per insidias / insultus seu aliquo alio modo quod in lesionem seu perturbacionem pacis dicti Regis cedere valeat quouismodo / videlicet quilibet manucaptorum predictorum sub pena decem librarum et predictus Iohannes Paas sub pena viginti librarum quas quidem / Summas decem librarum quilibet manucaptorum predictorum vt predicitur per se ac predictus Iohannes Paas dictas viginti libras recognouerunt se domino / Regi debere et de terris et catallis suis et

Pena

cuiuslibet eorum ad opus ipsius Regis fieri et leuari si idem Iohannes Paas in / premissis vel in aliquo premissorum deliquerit et inde modo legitimo conuictus fuerit et cetera.

XX^imo

[1] *in eodem Comitatu* interlineated.

PLATE XL, B

P. R. O. Original Letters Patent (Chancery) [Chancery Files, 7 Edward IV].
A. D. 1468.

The writing of this example is substantially the same as that of Plate XXX A, though slightly more ornamental, and the same general and special remarks apply to it. The practice of lengthening the letters of the top line for ornament may be reckoned to begin in documents of this class about the end of the 14th century. In documents of more importance it goes back to the 12th.

Individual letters. Observe the employment of medial *v* in the counter-signature of the clerk.

Punctuation is almost entirely by capitals, but a few thin lines resembling commas occur. Note signs of **Erasure**.

Edwardus dei gracia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie Omnibus ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, salutem Sciatis quod cum nos duodecimo / die Aprilis Anno regni nostri primo per literas nostras patentes concesserimus dilecto nobis Edmundo Childerhous officium Magistri Artillarie nostre infra villam nostram Calesie / habendum et occupandum dictum officium pro termino vite sue vna cum domibus vadiis et proficuis eidem officio vltimo Edwardi tertii et primo Ricardi secundi nuper Regum / Anglie annis debitis et consuetis siue quoquo modo pertinentibus percipienda vadia predicta per manus Thesaurarii nostri ville predicte et Marchie ibidem pro tempore / existentis de omnimodis exitibus et proficuis ad manus dicti Thesaurarii racione officii sui quoquo modo pertinentibus ad festa Pasche et sancti Michaelis per equales porciones / prout in literis illis plene liquet quas quidem literas idem Edmundus in voluntate existit nobis in Cancellariam nostram restituere cancellandas ad intencionem / quod nos alias literas nostras sibi ac dilecto seruitori nostro Willelmo Alberd' in forma sequenti concedere dignaremur Nos premissa considerantes de gracia nostra speciali ac / consideracione boni et fidelis seruicii nobis per prefatos Edmundum et Willelmum multipliciter impensi et impendendi ac pro eo quod idem Edmundus literas predictas nobis in Cancellariam / nostram restituit cancellandas concessimus et per presentes concedimus eisdem Edmundo et Willelmo officium Artillarie nostre infra villam nostram Calesie ac ipsos Edmundum / et Willelmum Artillarios nostros infra villam nostram predictam ordinamus ordinauimus et constituimus habendum et occupandum officium illud prefatis Edmundo et Willelmo per se vel / per sufficientem deputatum suum vel deputatos suos sufficientes a festo sancti Michaelis vltimo preterito

pro termino vite eorum et alterius eorum diucius viuentis / cum talibus domibus vadiis feodis et proficuis qualia Patricius Byker nuper Artillarius Regis pro se et pro vno valetto sub se ac Eustacius similiter nuper Artillarius / temporibus domini Edwardi tertii et Ricardi secundi nuper Regum Anglie separatim habuerunt et perceperunt percipienda vadia et feoda et singula predicta prefatis Edmundo et Willelmo / annuatim per manus Thesaurarii nostri ville predicte et Marchie ibidem pro tempore existentis de omnimodis exitibus et proficuis ad manus dicti Thesaurarii racione officii sui quoquo / modo pertinentibus ad festa Pasche et sancti Michaelis per equales porciones, eo quod expressa mencio de vero valore annuo officii predicti ac vadiorum et ceterorum premissorum in presentibus facta / non existit aut aliquo statuto ordinacione concessione siue actu aut restriccione incontrarium facto non obstante In cuius rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus / patentes Teste me ipso apud Stonystratford' vndecimo die Februarii Anno regni nostri septimo, ,Ive, /

per breue de priuato sigillo et de data predicta auctoritate parliamenti, /

PLATE XLI, A

P. R. O. Charter Roll (Chancery), No. 191, m. 4.

A. D. 1462.

This plate should be compared with Plate XXXVIII A. It shows a progressive coarsening of the writing. The vertical character of the hand is retained, but the letters are more roughly made and the strokes are thicker. Besides this there is a certain artificiality about it, giving the impression that it is further removed than the previous specimen from every-day writing, much in the same way as a modern engrossing hand has a somewhat unnatural appearance.

Individual letters. *a* is headed and rises above the line. Inverted *e* has been replaced by one modelled on earlier forms but without their roundness. The bow of *h* rises from the foot of the stem and has a very sharp angle. *i* is not dotted even when doubtful. *r* is as usual a simple fork; the short form only used after *o* has a tail. Long *s* is not used initially.

Abbreviations are of the usual types. The common sign is so much curved as to be scarcely distinguishable from the sign for *-er*. Note that *-cer* is almost exactly like the old ligature for *ct* (*excercuerunt* l. 29). The *-us* sign is very heavy and distinct.

pp is written as a **ligature.**

Punctuation is by capitals only. There are no **hyphens** (*specificantur* ll. 33, 34), and little flourishes are used to fill up the lines.

. . . . . Illorum qui huiusmodi recia weras et ingenia sic ibidem posuerint erexe[r]int aut exnunc ponere vel / erigere presumant Et ad omnes illos et singulos eadem recea weras vel ingenia ibidem sic ponentes / secundum leges ordinaciones et consuetudines Ciuitatis predicte editas et edendas Iusticiandos et amerciandos vel ad / fines ponendos aut alias penas sic infligendas secundum ordinaciones antedictas Volumus eciam et concedimus et / sub graui forisfactura prohibemus ne quis aliquas Trenchias in dictam aquam de Wensum infra metas / limites et bundas supradictas aut fimum vel alia sordida in batellis aut aliis vasis per aquam predictam faciet / cariet vel traducat aut facere cariari seu traduci presumat sub pena forisfacture batellorum et vasorum illorum et finem / secundum discreciones Maioris et vicecomitum Ciuitatis predicte quos forisfacturas et fines prefatis Ciuibus Ciuitatis predicte et / successoribus suis in releuamen et auxilium solucionis firme sue Ciuitatis predicte concedimus et haberi ac percepi[1] / volumus Concessimus eciam pro nobis et heredibus nostris prefatis Maiori vicecomitibus Ciuibus Communitati heredibus et successoribus / suis quod nullum mercatum decetero infra eandem Ciuitatem Suburbia hamelettos procinctum et circuitum predicta / pro piscibus aut carnibus in grosso seu ad retaliam vendendis teneatur. nisi in loco consueto per dictos Maiorem / vicecomites Ciues et Communitatem assignando sub pena forisfacture dictorum piscium et carnium et faciendi finem secundum / discreciones Maioris et vicecomitum Ciuitatis predicte pro tempore existencium. que quidem forisfacturas et fines Volumus / conuerti et applicari ad vsum Ciuium Ciuitatis predicte in auxilium solucionis feodi firme predicte Et quod nullum / mercatum decetero infra quinque leucas in circuitu Ciuitatis predicte per nos vel heredes nostros alicui concedatur / Volumus eciam et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod per translacionem alternacionem et mutacionem nominum Balliuorum / predictorum Ciuitatis predicte nec per aliquam aliam causam aut colorem alique vel aliqua de franchesiis / concessionibus libertatibus priuilegiis immunitatibus quietanciis seu commoditatibus et consuetudinibus prefatis / Ciuibus et Communitati eorum heredibus antecessoribus successoribus ac tenentibus et residentibus infra dictam Ciuitatem / Norwici Suburbia hamelettos procinctum et circuitum predicta per progenitores nostros ante hec tempora concessis et per / nos confirmatis erga nunc Maiorem et vicecomites Ciues et Communitatem aut tenentes et residentes in / eadem Ciuitate Suburbiis hamelettis procinctu et circuitu predictis seu heredes vel successores suos nullo / modo denegentur restringantur

[1] *sic* MS.

minuantur nec abreuiantur[1] set quod iidem Maior vicecomites Ciues et Communitas dicte / Ciuitatis Norwici ac suburbiorum et hamelettorum predictorum ac[2] procinctu et circuitu eorundem ac eorum heredes et successores / habeant teneant et excerceant omnia alia et singula franchesias libertates priuilegia munitates[3] quietancias / commoditates et consuetudines et eis et eorum quolibet plene gaudeant et vtantur de articulo in articulum ac de / verbo in verbum que et prout Balliui Ciues et Communitas Ciuitatis predicte ac antecessores et predecessores sui habuerunt / et excercuerunt et excercere debuerunt ex concessione dictorum progenitorum nostrorum et nostra confirmacione ante mutacionem / nominum Balliuorum predictorum per nos nunc factam et concessam imperpetuum Quare volumus et firmiter precipimus pro nobis / et heredibus nostris quod predicti Maior vicecomites Ciues et Communitas dicte Ciuitatis nostre Norwici suburbiorum et hamelettorum / predictorum in procinctu et circuitu eorundem ac eorum heredes et successores sui omnia et singula huiusmodi / cogniciones concessiones priuilegia Franchesias libertates et munitates[4] prout superius exprimuntur et speci/ficantur habeant et excerceant ac hiis et eorum singulis plene libere et quiete gaudeant et vtantur imperpetuum / sicut predictum est. Concessimus eciam pro nobis et heredibus nostris et hac carta nostra confirmauimus prefatis Maiori / vicecomitibus Ciuibus et Communitati heredibus et successoribus suis imperpetuum quod bene liceat prefatis Maiori vicecomitibus Ciuibus et / Communitati et successoribus suis ponere se per se vel deputatos suos in plenam et pacificam seisinam et / possessionem omnium et singulorum premissorum quociens et quando eis bonum videbitur et expediens et inde / debitas allocaciones in quibuscumque Curiis nostris ac heredum nostrorum de tempore in tempus super sola / demonstracione presencium habeant absque aliquo breui nostro vel heredum nostrorum superinde prosequendo absque impe/ticione impedimento vel perturbacione nostri aut dictorum heredum nostrorum Iusticiariorum Thesaurarii Anglie Baronum de Scaccario / Senescalli Marescalli clerici mercati nostri et heredum nostrorum aut aliorum Officiariorum seu Ministrorum nostrorum / et heredum nostrorum quorumcumque Nos autem donaciones concessiones libertates priuilegia quietancias et / confirmaciones predictas ac omnia alia et singula predicta rata habentes et grata ea pro nobis et heredibus nostris / quantum in nobis est acceptamus approbamus et prefatis Ciuibus et Communitati Ciuitatis predicte ac eorum heredibus / et successoribus tenore

[1] *sic* MS.
[2] *ac* apparently for *in*.
[3] *sic* MS.
[4] *sic* MS.

presencium concedimus et confirmamus[1] Preterea volentes prefatis Ciuibus et Communitati graciam in hac parte / facere vberiorem concessimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod licet iidem Ciues et Communitas vel eorum antecessores / aut predecessores aliquo vel aliquibus libertatum priuilegiorum seu quietanciarum predictorum aliquo casu emergente / hactenus plene vsi non fuerint iidem tamen Ciues et Communitas Ciuitatis predicte ac heredes et successores / sui omnibus et singulis libertatibus priuilegiis et quietanciis predictis et eorum quolibet decetero plene gaudeant / et vtantur absque impedimento nostri vel heredum nostrorum Iusticiariorum Escaetorum vicecomitum Coronatorum aut aliorum / Balliuorum seu Ministrorum nostrorum vel heredum nostrorum quorumcumque imperpetuum, eo tamen quod expressa mencio / de vero valore annuo premissorum nec alicuius eorundem nec de aliis donis et concessionibus per nos / vel progenitores nostros prefatis Maiori Vicecomitibus Ciuibus et Communitati aut Ciuibus Ciuitatis predicte vel predecessoribus / suis ante hec tempora factis in presentibus minime existit facta. aut aliquo statuto actu ordinacione/ causa re vel materia quacumque non obstante. Hiis testibus venerabilibus patribus Thoma Cantuariensi tocius / Anglie primate et W. Eboracensi Anglie primate Archiepiscopis G. Exoniensi Cancellario nostro et W. Eliensi Episcopis. ac / precarissimis fratribus nostris Georgio Clarencie et Ricardo Gloucestrie Ducibus necnon Carissimis Consanguineis / nostris Ricardo Warrewici Senescallo Anglie et Henrico Essexie Thesaurario nostro Comitibus ac Dilectis et fidelibus nostris Iohanne / Montagu et Willelmo Hastynges Camerario nostro Militibus. necnon dilecto clerico nostro Roberto Styllyngtonia / Custode priuati sigilli nostri et aliis Data per manum nostram apud Westmonasterium xij die Februarii /

per ipsum Regem et de data predicta auctoritate parliamenti et / pro quadraginta solidis solutis in hanaperio /

PLATE XLI, B

P. R. O. Memoranda Roll (Exchequer, K. R.), No. 252, Hilary Term, 14 Edward IV, Recorda m. 4 *d.*

A. D. 1475.

This, although an enrolment of the Court of Exchequer, is less formal in character than the Chancery documents last given, and more nearly approaches ordinary handwriting. It shows the same tendency to thick and clumsy strokes, but is less rigidly vertical, and in the bowed

[1] *et confirmamus* interlineated.

letters less angular. There is no difference in character between the English and the Latin. The tall letters, however, still have often triangular heads.

Individual letters. Headed *a* (the only type) is made in two pieces, the head rising above the line. *d* has a sharp angle in the lower bow. *e* is once more inverted and has a distinct waist. *g* is made in a new way much like a modern written *g*. The bow of *h* springs from the middle of the stem and is curled under the line to the left. *i* is not usually accented or dotted—a knot is sometimes written on to the letter (*regni* l. 7)—but the second of two *i*s is produced. Round *r* has a heavy tail; it is used after *P* as well as *o* (*Provided* l. 16). *Thorn* has ceased to be used in the English.

Abbreviations are well distinguished, but the *-er* sign is occasionally used as a simple mark of abbreviation (*nostri* l. 7). *es* is written in full, but the sign is also used (*Kynges* l. 11).

Punctuation. A light dash is used as a comma, and the *ss* **paragraph mark** occurs.

PLATE XLII, A

P. R. O. Feet of Fines (Common Pleas), Case 79, No. 94, m. 45.

A. D. 1478.

The writing of this document is less formal and angular than the last and is quite different in character from the hands of the earlier part of the century. It shows the same clumsiness of form as the last few specimens, from which it differs mainly by the increased curvature of the letters.

Individual letters. Both forms of headed *a* are used. *e* is inverted, with a waist. *g* is written in the usual way, with two crossed strokes. Both forms of *h* are used. *i* is occasionally accented, and the second of two *i*s is produced. Round *r* has no tail.

The **abbreviations** are as usual. The common sign is a curved line with a dot under.

The **punctuation** is by capitals only, but the document concludes with a flourish serving as a full stop.

[CYROGRAPHVM]

Hec est finalis concordia facta in Curia domini Regis apud Westmonasterium in Crastino sancti Martini Anno / regnorum Edwardi Regis Anglie et Francie quarti a conquestu decimo octauo coram Thoma / Bryan' Ricardo Chokk[e] Thoma littelton' et Ricardo Neel. Iusticiariis et aliis domini Regis fidelibus tunc ibi / presentibus Inter Thomam Berkeley armigerum Mauricium Kynge et Iohannem Atte Wode querentes / et Walterum Skaye armigerum 5

deforciantem de manerio de Pytcourt cum pertinenciis ac de medietate Manerii / de Ryngeworth' cum pertinenciis que Cristoforus Comberford' et Iohanna vxor eius tenent ad terminum vite / ipsius Iohanne vnde placitum conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predictus Walterus recognouit / predicta Manerium et medietatem cum pertinenciis esse ius ipsius Mauricii Et concessit pro se et heredibus suis / quod predictum Manerium et medietas cum pertinenciis que predicti Cristoforus et Iohanna tenuerunt ad terminum vite / ipsius Iohanne de hereditate predicti Walteri die quo hec concordia facta fuit Et que post decessum / ipsius Iohanne ad predictum Walterum et heredes suos debuerunt reuerti post decessum ipsius Iohanne integre / remaneant predictis Thome Mauricio et Iohanni et heredibus ipsius Mauricii Tenenda de Capitalibus dominis / feodi illius per seruicia que ad predicta Manerium et medietatem pertinent imperpetuum Et predictus / Walterus et heredes sui warantizabunt predictis Thome Mauricio et Iohanni et heredibus ipsius Mauricii predicta / Manerium et medietatem cum pertinenciis sicut predictum est contra omnes homines imperpetuum Et pro hac / recognicione concessione warantizacione fine et concordia ijdem Thomas Mauricius et Iohannes dederunt / predicto Waltero ducentas libras sterlingorum.

Gloucestria.

PLATE XLII, B

P. R. O. Ancient Correspondence, Vol. 53, No. 194.
A. D. 1488.

[Printed: *Cely Papers* (Royal Historical Society, Camden Society, 3rd Series), Vol. I, p. 170.]

This example shows how the forms of letters which have been illustrated in the last few plates were modified by rapid writing. Besides this certain cursive forms will be observed to reappear, such as headless *a* and short *r*. The letter is a good specimen of a natural hand, being one of a series written from Calais at intervals of a few days in the ordinary course of a wool-stapler's business. It makes no pretence to regularity or elegance, yet, if the letters be closely examined, the forms which have been described already will be recognized.

Individual letters. *a* is headless; *A* is the one-line form, the top being narrowed so that it resembles a modern written *A*. *b*, *h*, and *l* have large loops, the leading strokes being almost horizontal. The lower bow of *d* is left open when it is joined to a letter preceding. In the same way inverted *e* is not closed and the loop is so small that the letter is not unlike an *o*. Initial *f* is doubled to distinguish it from *s*, and

the two letters are joined at the head as in Plate XXXIII. *g* is of the type described in Plate XXXVIII B. The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem and is almost entirely below the line; when joined to the following letter it almost disappears, producing a form on which the modern German script *h* is modelled. *i* is almost always replaced by *y*; when used it is not dotted (*this* l. 8, *diuersse* l. 23). *I* is simply hooked. Note the form of capital *p* already alluded to in Plate XXXVI A. *q* is joined to the following letter as in modern writing (*quetaunce* l. 12). The round *r* is used after any letter and has completely displaced the other type; *R* being used as an initial. Long *s* is used initially and medially, the short type being reserved for finals and written rather like modern written *o*. Medial *v* does not occur, nor initial *u*; but *w* is frequently substituted for medial *u*. The form of *w* is simplified, as in Plate XXXVIII B. The cross-stroke of *x* is vertical, somewhat resembling *p* (*be twyxte* l. 7). *y* is like *n* with a tail and is not usually dotted (see, however, *mony* l. 22). *z* (*Callz* l. 26) is indistinguishable from ȝ [= *g* or *y*] (*ye* l. 17).

The **abbreviations** are as usual. The common sign is either a straight line, or a curved line with a dot under. Final letters are abbreviated very frequently, the abbreviation probably representing a final *e*, as it is here extended.

Ligatures. *st*, *ss*, and *ff* are all written as ligatures, the letters being joined at the top and splayed at the bottom. *pp* are also conjoined.

Punctuation is by capital letters only.

Jhesu M[l]. iiij . iiij[xx]. vij/

Ryght worschyppffulle Syr and myne esspecyalle good mastyr With alle dew / recommendacion had I vmbly Recommend mee vnto yowre good mastyrschypp / Fyrdyr plese hytt yowre good mastyrschypp to vnderstond that I haue / Receyued be thomas Graungers seruaunte yowre letter datyd at londone the / ij[th] [1] day of merche the whyche I hawe well vnderstoud And as tow/chynge the matter be twyxte yowre mastyrschypp and sybsone I haue nott / as yett spookene with Johne Hubbard theroff but withyn this [2] ij days I wylle / goo to guynesse and speke with hymme therffor And I dowghte nott alle the / Favoure that hys mastyr and hym bothe Can doo yn that matter / or yn any oder agaynyst hymme I know hytt welle yowre mastyrschypp schalle / hawe hytt And syr For the quetaunce that sybsone made to Wylliam / strycke of sentrycasse I hawe nott yett seyne hytt but I spake with stryke / hys wyffe here at merkett And sche says her husband hathe / a quytaunce of sybsone the whyche I schalle see whanne I Come theder / wheroff I schalle send yowre mastyr

[1] corrected from *xv[th]*. [2] *this* interlineated.

schypp the copy schorttly and / tydynges how ye schalle spede yn that matter et cetera. syr as For tydyn/ges owte of Flaundyrs they Contenew stylle yn myscheyff lycke as / I hawe wryttene yow yn my last letter be on thomas spycer of the / northe Contreye, saue on Satterday[1] last was be hedyd at bruges the lorde / Dugelle and moo ys lyke to be schorttly. They surmysyd a matter vppon Johne / de Lowppys but he hath stoppyd theme with mony and soo syche menne as beth /[2] of any substaunce yn bruges Feryth thys Rekenynge and diuersse / off them[1] stelyth dayly aweye and goyth to myddelleborow yn selond, For they / Fere the end wylle be nawghte whych I pray all myghty Jhesu a / mend hytt whoo euyr preserue yow wryttenne at Callz the xij / day of Merche

per yowre seruaunte
Wylliam Cely

PLATE XLIII

P. R. O. Close Roll (Chancery), No. 360, m. 28 *d.*

A. D. 1500.

This last example of Chancery enrolment hand illustrates the difference which two languages present when written in the same hand. Here, owing to the greater number of *h*s, *s*s, and *w*s, the English presents a rounder appearance than the Latin. The engrossing hand of the *Memoranda* is more artificial than that of the documents enrolled.

Individual letters. *a* is made in two pieces. *B* is of the rounded form, which is easily confused with other capitals. *e* is not inverted. The bow of *h* starts from the middle of the stem. *i* is not accented or dotted. *I* has a forked or notched head. Short *s*, always used for initials and finals, has its head above the line. Medial *v* occurs (*Lavyngtone* l. 5).

The **abbreviations** are more regular in the English than in the Latin, where the common sign joined to a final letter is rather like that for *-er*. We have omitted in transcription the thin lines attached to most final consonants in the English.

Ligatures. There is a tendency to write *de* close together, and *pp* are as usual combined.

Punctuation. Full stops are used as well as capitals. A diagonal dash is also used as a period, and a double dash as a **paragraph mark.** The marginal numbers are later additions.

℗ To alle men to Whome this present Writing indented shalle come Richard Halle and John Eggecomb send greting And Where as dyuers variaunces / and debates haue bene had and moued and yet beth betwene John Asshewelle Gentilman on that oon partie

[1] Note interlineation. [2] *hathe* cancelled.

and John Boterelle of Burforde of that / other partie of and vppon the right possession and title of a mese or a Burgage With thappurtynaunce. and xxxviij acres of lond and di acre of mead / in Burforde aforesaide. and of and vppon the right title and possession of and vppon alle other landes and tenementes Which late Were of oon John / Lavyngtone in Burforde aforesaide. For Which variaunces aforesaide to be peased. the parties aforesaide haue submitted theym self to abide the / laude arbitrement and iugement of vs the saide Richard and John Arbitrours by the saide parties indifferently chosen to arbitre adiuge ordeyne / and deme betwene the saide parties of and vppon the right title and possession of the premisses. And We the saide Arbitrours hauing before / vs the parties aforesaide at Wodstocke the vjth day of Aprille in the xvth yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry the vijth. the euidences of either partie / welle and ripely vnderstoud by the assent and aggrement of both the saide parties ordeigne arbitre adiuge and deme of and vppon the / premisses in fourme folowying That is to saye that the saide John Asshewelle and alle other any thing hauing in the premisses by hym or to / his vse shalle before the ffest of Saynt Michelle tharchangelle next comyng after this present date make or cause to be made to the saide John / Boterelle or to such persones as he shalle name a sufficient and a suer estate in the lawe by theire dedes and releases sufficient in / the lawe by theym to be knowledged and enrolled and otherwise as by the counselle of the saide John Boterelle it shalbe aduysed before / the saide fest. And ouer that the saide John Asshewelle and alle other any hauyng in the premisses by hym or to his vse shalle delyuer or cause/ to be delyuerd to the saide John Boterelle or to suche persones as he shalle name alle euydences writynges and mynumentes concernyng the / saide landes and tenementes With theire appurtynaunces or any parcell therof Which they haue in their keping the day of thies presentes or any / other persone to their vse afore the saide fest. For Which estate in fourme aforesaide to be made We the saide Arbitrours awarde and / adiuge. that the saide John Boterelle shalle content and paye to the saide John Asshewelle viij.li. xiij s iiij d sterlynges in fourme / folowing That is to saye. the day of the estate and delyuere of the euydences to be made iiij li sterlynges. and iiij li xiij s iiij d the / residue of the saide viij li xiij s iiij d to be paied in the churche of Saynt Dunstone in Flete strete at London the xvth day after the / saide fest of Saynt Michelle aforesaide After Which payment there forthwith euerych of the saide parties shalle by their dedes / sufficient in the lawe releas to other almaner of accions and demaundes.

In Witnes Wherof We the saide Arbitrours to thies / Writinges indentid haue set to our seales the saide vjth day of Aprille the yere abouesaide /

Et memorandum quod tercio die Iulii anno presenti predicti Ricardus et Iohannes Eggecomb' venerunt coram domino Rege / in Cancellaria sua apud Westmonasterium et recognouerunt scriptum predictum et omnia contenta in eodem in forma predicta /

℣ Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit. Iohannes Warner Ciuis et Fremason londoniarum, salutem in domino sempiternam. Noueritis me / prefatum Iohannem dedisse
8 concessisse et hoc presenti scripto meo confirmasse Roberto Sheffelde Militi ac Recordatori Ciuitatis londoniarum et Stephano Jenyns / de londoniis Aldermanno omnia et singula bona et catalla mea mobilia et immobilia res mercandisas et mercimonia tam viua quam mortua cuiuscumque / generis fuerint vel speciei in quorumcumque manibus tam in Ciuitate londoniarum quam alibi infra regnum Anglie existentia. Habenda et tenenda omnia et singula / bona et catalla res mercandisas et mercimonia predicta prefatis Roberto Sheffelde et Stephano Jenyns executoribus et eorum assignatis imperpetuum. ad faciendum ordinandum et / disponendum cum eisdem liberas voluntates suas vt de bonis et catallis suis rebus mercandisis et mercimoniis propriis sine contradiccione cuiuscumque et / sine aliquo compoto seu responso alicui inde reddendo infuturum. Ita videlicet quod nec ego predictus Iohannes Warner heredes nec executores mei / nec aliquis alius per nos pro nobis seu nomine nostro aliquod ius clameum accionem vel demandam de. et in bonis et catallis rebus mercandisis et / mercimoniis predictis nec in aliqua parcella eorundem decetero exigere clamare seu vendicare poterimus nec poterit infuturum set ab omni accione iuris et / clamei inde simus exclusi imperpetuum per presentes. de quibus quidem bonis et catallis rebus mercandisis et mercimoniis predictis predictos Robertum et / Stephanum posui in possessionem per liberacionem quatuor denariorum quos ei tradidi et deliberaui die dati presencium nomine seisine et possessionis bonorum / et catallorum ac aliorum premissorum predictorum. In cuius re[1] testimonium huic presenti scripto meo sigillum meum apposui. Datum quinto die aprilis / anno regni Regis Henrici septimi post conquestum quintodecimo./

Et memorandum quod decimo die Iulii anno presenti predictus Iohannes Warner venit coram domino Rege in Cancellaria / sua apud Westmonasterium et recognouit scriptum predictum et omnia contenta in eodem in forma predicta./

[1] *re* by mistake for *rei*.

PLATE XLIV

P. R. O. Foreign Roll (Exch. L. T. R.), No. 119, m. *A*.

A. D. 1501.

This is once more the most formal type of Exchequer-hand (compare Plate XXXV), and consequently it is completely artificial in character, and may fairly be compared with early Gothic type. The letters have vertical down-strokes and angular bodies, like those of fifty years before, but this hand is much less certain, and consequently less beautiful.

Individual letters. Headed *a*, the only type, is generally built up of two or three pieces. *b* has a low triangular head more than ever like *v* (compare *billas* and *videlicet* l. 13). *e* is usually made with a diamond-shaped loop, the thin stroke at the back being sometimes produced upwards above the letter: inverted *e* occurs occasionally (*Portyngale* l. 8). The upper bow of *g* is diamond-shaped, but the lower shows a tendency to be curved (*Regis* l. 1). The bow of *h* springs from the foot of the stem with a high shoulder, and comes very little below the line. *i* is very rarely accented (*domui* l. 2). *o* is diamond-shaped. *r* is a mere fork, only having a shoulder when final: the rounded form is used after *b* (*Februarii* l. 3) and *o*, but not invariably in either case. Long *s* is only medial. *v* is closed and looks very like *b*. *w* is of the old type with the double loop in the second limb. *y* has a large head and a short tail. *z* is long.

The **abbreviations** are somewhat carelessly made, the common sign being almost the same as that for *-er*.

Punctuation is by capitals only.

Notice the marks of **ruling** at the ends of the lines.

londonie. Auditores { T Roche Baro / R Watus clericus } Compotus magistri Willelmi Warham Custodis Rotulorum librorum et Recordorum Cancellarie domini Regis ac domus siue hospitalis / Conuersorum londoniis tam pro Feodis et vadiis ipsius Custodis quam duorum Capellanorum et vnius Clerici dicte domui deseruiencium necnon quatuor Conuersorum domus predicte / subscriptorum. per breue domini Regis nunc Henrici vij^{mi} de magno sigillo suo datum x^{mo} die Februarii anno regni Regis Henrici vij^{mi} xvj^{mo} Thesaurario et Baronibus de Scaccario suo ac Camerariis / suis eiusdem directum et irrotulatum in Memorandis huius Scaccarii Videlicet inter breuia directa Baronibus de termino sancti Hillarii anno regni sui xvj^{mo} rotulo iiij^{to} ex parte Rememoratoris Regis

in quo / quidem breui inter cetera continetur quod cum dictus dominus Rex nunc henricus septimus xiij^mo die Februarii anno regni sui ix^no per literas suas patentes constituerit predictum Wyllelmum Custodem / Rotulorum librorum et Recordorum Cancellarie sue predicte ac eciam dederit et concesserit eidem Wyllelmo Custodiam domus siue hospitalis predicte ac dictus dominus Rex nunc prefatis Thesaurario et / Baronibus mandauit quod cum prefato custos[1] siue eius in ea parte attornato pro vadiis et feodis tam ipsius custodis quam duorum Capellanorum et vnius Clerici dicte domu[1] deseruientium necnon pro[2] / vadiis Iohannis fernando henrici de Wyndesore Elizabethe[2] Portyngale et Edwardi de Westmonasterio dicte domus Conuersorum eodem modo quo cum custode domus predicte pro tempore / existente pro huiusmodi feodis et vadiis ante hec tempora computari solebat computent et eidem Custodi talia vadia et feoda pro seipso Capellanis Clerico et conuersis predictis qualia / huiusmodi Custos[1] pro tempore existens[1] pro vadiis et feodis huiusmodi ad Scaccarium predictum ante hec tempora allocata fuerunt allocent Ac prefato Custodi id quod ei per compotum huiusmodi pro seipso / et pro predictis Cappellanis Clerico et conuersis a xiiij^mo die Februarii anno xv^mo dicti domini Regis nunc Henrici septimi vsque xiiij^mum diem Februarii tunc proximo sequentem anno / eiusdem domini Regis nunc xvj^mo aretro fore inuenerint et deberi prefati Thesaurarius et Camerarii de Thesauro Regis soluant prout in eodem breui plenius continetur Radulpho Brian / attornato ipsius custodis sicut continetur inter billas attornacionis de termino sancti hillarii dicto anno xvj^mo ex parte Rememoratoris predicti videlicet pro huiusmodi vadiis et feodis ipsius Custodis Capellanorum et clerici / ac predictorum Iohannis fernando henrici Wyndesore Elizabethe portyngale et Edwardi Westminster vt inferius /

feoda et vadia.

Idem computat in feodo suo ad xx marcas per annum duorum Capellanorum vtriusque ad iiij li per annum et vnius[2] Clerici ad ij marcas per annum dicte domui vt premittitur deseruiencium / videlicet a supradicto xiiij^mo die februarii dicto anno xv^mo dicti domini Regis nunc henrici vij^mi vsque xiiij^mum diem Februarii extunc proximo sequentem anno eiusdem domini Regis nunc / xvj^mo scilicet per vnum annum integrum—xxij li. xiij.s. iiij d. per breue predictum

[1] *sic* MS. [2] Note erasure.

supra in titulo huius compoti annotatum. prout huiusmodi feda [*sic*] et vadia allocata fuerunt eidem custodi / ac diuersis aliis nuper custodibus ibidem sicut continetur in diuersis compotis precedentibus ac sicut continetur in quodam Rotulo ipsius custodis de particulis inde super hunc compotum / examinato et in thesauro liberato Et in vadiis supradictorum Iohannis de Fernando henrici de Wyndesore Elizabethe Portyngale et edwardi de Westmonasterio domus predicte conuersorum / cuiuslibet eorum ad j d ob per diem videlicet a supradicto xiiij^mo^ die Februarii anno xv^mo^ dicti domini Regis nunc henrici septimi vsque xiiij^mum^ diem Februarii extunc proximo / sequentem Scilicet per vnum annum integrum—ix li. ij s. vj d. per breue Regis predicti supra in titulo huius compoti annotatum ac per quatuor separales acquietancias ipsorum Iohannis henrici / Elizabeth et Edwardi recepcionem summe predicte separaliter testificantes super hunc compotum examinatas et in baga cum particulis huius compoti remanentes sicut continetur in / Rotulo predicti Custodis de particulis / examinatur/

Summa Feodorum et vadiorum predictorum—xxxj li. xv s. x.d. De quibus habiturus est / solucionem vel satisfaccionem aliunde coram Thesaurario et Camerariis ad Receptam huius Scaccarii pretextu breuis / Regis supra in titulo huius Compoti annotati Quod quidem breue liberatur prefatis Thesaurario et Camerariis ad Receptam predictam xvj^mo^ die Februarii anno xvj^mo^ Regis predicti./

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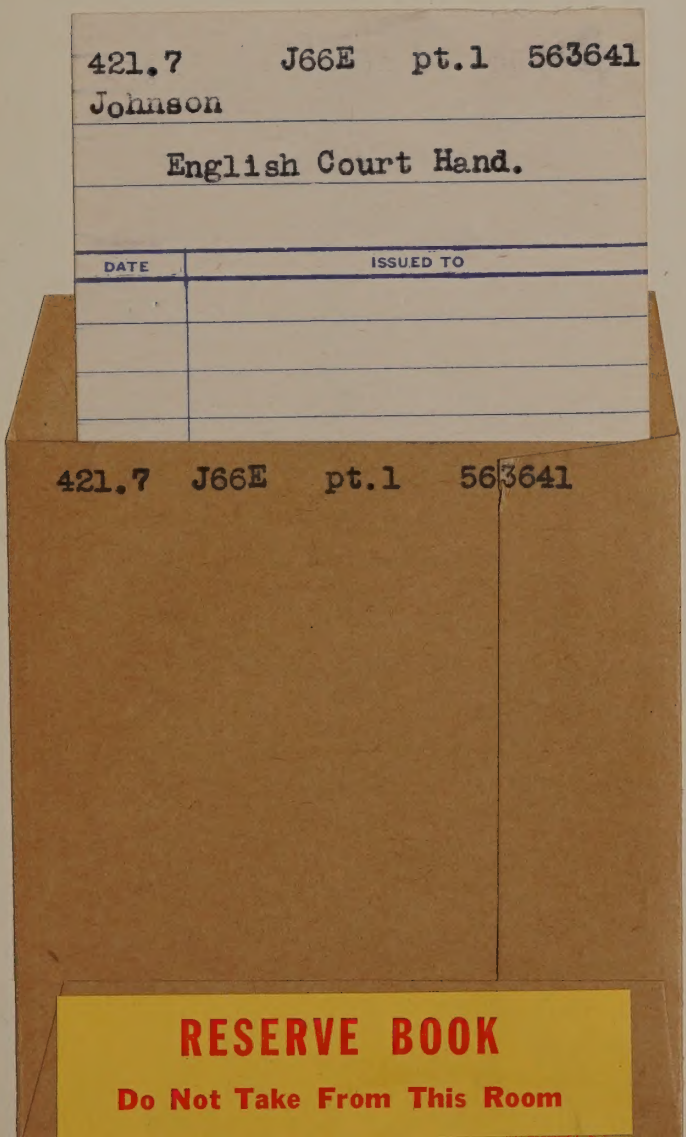
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